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PART III.—VOL. XLII.

CORRESPONDENCE, ORDERS, AND RETURNS RELATING TO OPERATIONS IN SOUTHEASTERN VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA, FROM OCTOBER 1, 1864, TO DECEMBER 31, 1864.*

UNION CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
October 1, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States, City Point:

The following has been received at the War Department from the Quartermaster-General:

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
September 27, 1864.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: A large quantity of steam and other water transportation has been collected in the waters of the Chesapeake in order to be ready for any sudden general movement of troops. The expense is great, and I have therefore to ask whether, in view of the late successes in the Shenandoah Valley, it will be prudent to reduce this transportation to what may be necessary for current wants and supplies of the troops operating on the James River.

I am, &c.,

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

The Secretary of War has directed me to refer this communication to you for your advice to the Department thereupon.

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Colonel, Inspector-General U. S. Army.

CITY POINT, *October 1, 1864—10 a. m.*
(Received 6 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

The enemy assaulted General Butler's line north of the James River three times yesterday afternoon, and were repulsed each time, General Butler reports, with heavy loss. Late in the evening Potter's division, Ninth Corps, whilst moving to get to the left of Warren, near Poplar Spring Church, was vigorously assaulted by a superior force and driven back until re-enforced by Griffin's division, when the enemy were checked, General Meade thinks, with heavy loss. Potter lost from his

* For Correspondence, etc., from August 1, 1864, to September 30, 1864, see Part II.

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division a considerable number killed, wounded, and captured. The enemy are now threatening our left in considerable force. Our line extends full two miles west of the Weldon railroad with the left turned back. The troops intrenched themselves during the night.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—8 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward dispatches* from Generals Parke, Hancock, and signal officer. From them you will see the enemy had not left Parke's front at last report, and that they are being re-enforced this morning. From the deserter's statement I feel confirmed in the view expressed last evening that I have two divisions in the lines against me, and two meeting my attack on the left. Part of these in the lines were or will be sent to the point threatened. I am awaiting a report from Warren and Parke, and Gregg, as to the reconnaissances ordered this morning. Parke and Warren were ordered to advance if they deemed it practicable, and the substance of General Butler's dispatch sent to them. If I advance I will send up Hancock's division, and put in all the troops I can get hold of.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send you a dispatch from provost-marshal indicating four divisions in my front.† I also forward a report from Warren,† just received, indicating the enemy not only in force in his front, but menacing him. This may be policy. I have ordered Mott's division to the left; as soon as he reaches there I will assume the offensive. This leaves the line from the Appomattox to the Weldon railroad to be held by the divisions of Hancock and the colored troops, less than 15,000.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 1, 1864.*
(Received 10.30 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I start in a few minutes for General Butler's headquarters. Dispatches directed to Deep Bottom will reach me. There is one regiment of new troops here assigned to you that might be ordered out and put in the line. You will be able to judge best as to the propriety of further offensive operations.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Hancock to Humphreys, 7 a. m.; Parke to Humphreys, 5.15 a. m., and Fulton to Fisher, 6.45 a. m., pp. 11, 25, 9.

† See Babcock to Meade, beginning—Deserter from Sixtieth Alabama, p. 8, and Warren to Humphreys, 8 a. m., p. 18.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Deep Bottom:

I send two dispatches,* just received, for your information. I have no doubt Wilcox and Heth are in front of Warren and Parke, and that part, if not all, of Mahone's, will be there to-day. As soon as Mott gets up we will try them again.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

JUNCTION VARINA AND NEW MARKET [ROADS],
October 1, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

Prisoners have been captured here from Heth's division. General Butler is of the opinion that it has gone back, however. You may now correct and strengthen your line and advance no farther unless a very favorable chance presents itself. A reconnaissance of two brigades of infantry and Kautz's cavalry is now out on the Central road and probably at this time within five miles of Richmond.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Globe Tavern, October 1, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Deep Bottom or City Point:

Ayres, this morning at 8 a. m., repulsed the attack made by the enemy. Since then Crawford's pickets, on the Weldon railroad, have been felt and the signal officer has seen the enemy filing into their works across and to the right of this road. Prisoners and deserters report positively Wilcox, Heth, and part of Mahone as present; also bodies of dismounted cavalry, Dearing's brigade, and perhaps other portions of Hampton's command. Gregg, who was ordered up to Warren's left, on withdrawing, was attacked. He repulsed the attack, and is now ordered to fight their cavalry as long as they show fight, and then to join us or send such parts as he can spare. One of the prisoners told me he had seen a column of Ninth Corps men going into Petersburg, said to be 700 in number, and I fear from what I hear it is true. They were taken when Potter was driven back. Mott's division is now arriving by rail and going forward. I shall see Warren and Parke and then determine what I will do, being most desirous to attack unless I should not deem it judicious to do so. It is raining hard and roads east of Weldon railroad getting bad.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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*See Crawford to Humphreys, 9.25 a. m., p. 22, and Babcock to Humphreys, beginning—One lieutenant, &c., p. 9.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following has just been received:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

"1.30 P. M.

"A body of infantry has just disappeared in the woods on the right and to the west of the large fort west of the Weldon railroad. They came from our left on the Weldon railroad, apparently from Warren's old front. The head of the column was not visible on account of the rain. Saw about 1,000 of the column; in its rear 400 or 500 stragglers followed."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER.
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to General Meade.)

CITY POINT, VA., *October 1, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

The movements reported in General Crawford's front would indicate that the enemy had felt there this morning to see if they could strip that part of their line. Finding they could, they have re-enforced their right from there this evening. I think Crawford should be directed to push out in the morning directly down the railroad, leaving but a picket-line in his rear, and either make the enemy hold that part of his line strongly or go through. Hancock ought to do the same thing on his front.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Respectfully referred to Brigadier-General Crawford.

Generals Parke and Warren are ordered to attack early to-morrow morning. General Crawford will watch the enemy in his front and take advantage of any opportunity that may present itself, in conformity with previous instructions, either to attack or maneuver so as to compel the enemy to keep a force in his front.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Globe Tavern, October 1, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Mott's division did not reach the scene of operations till near 6 p. m.—that is, the last brigade; the first got there a little before 4;

there was considerable delay in getting the cars for them. This made it so late that, in connection with the weather, no movement was made. The enemy made no demonstration, after Ayres repulsing them, till 5 p. m., when Gregg was attacked, with what result I have not heard yet. Prisoners were yesterday taken from Anderson's brigade, of Field's division, over sixty of them, proving the presence of that brigade in addition to Wilcox, Heth, and possibly part of Mahone, leaving the balance of Mahone and Johnson to hold the intrenchments. There has been some firing about the Strong house, feeling, I presume, to see if we hold our lines. I have given orders to Parke and Warren to advance at daylight to-morrow and endeavor to effect a lodgment on the Boydton plank road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Globe Tavern, October 1, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

You have misapprehended the information as to Crawford's front. The enemy first felt his pickets and then were seen to man the rifle-pits and works in his front, which they had before abandoned, probably to take part in the attack on Ayres. Crawford's instructions are to watch their movements and to advance; if he sees any weakening of their lines to attack, otherwise to threaten. As his force only consists of a picket-line and two new undrilled regiments, I directed him to take one of Ferrero's brigades of colored troops, holding the lines to his right. These instructions he has for to-morrow, and are, I think, in conformity with the views expressed in your telegram just received.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 1, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I did [not?] understand the movements of the enemy in Crawford's front. I thought they first threatened our left. Have you heard the result of the attack on Gregg's cavalry yet?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send you a dispatch* just received from General Gregg. The Davis house, where he now is, [is] about three miles south and west from here, on the Vaughan road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Gregg to Humphreys, 6.30 p. m., p. 29.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Colonel BATCHELDER,
Chief Quartermaster:

No cars have arrived yet to take Mott's troops. Call on the quartermaster at City Point again to send them forward as fast as they can be got ready. This delay is unpardonable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Telegraph to General Parke's headquarters and advise him what is done.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864. (Received 12 m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:.

Three trains of cars are now at Hancock's Station and near General Mott's headquarters; others are to follow. I have sent Colonel Peirce to superintend the loading and bringing of them forward.

R. N. BATCHELDER,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
October 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Headquarters Fifth Army Corps:

There are forty-seven cars in the three trains; another of twelve is to follow. Colonel Peirce reports that the troops are being sent forward with all possible dispatch.

R. N. BATCHELDER,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Colonel Peirce reports that the last of the troops left Hancock's Station at 3 p. m.

R. N. BATCHELDER,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864.

General MEADE:

Deserter from Sixtieth Alabama, Gracie's brigade, Johnson's division, came in this morning; states that Johnson's and Mahone's divisions are all the troops now holding the lines from the Appomattox to near

the Weldon railroad; that all of Heth's and Wilcox's divisions are on the right. Informant thought all of Hoke's and Field's divisions have gone to Early or Chaffin's Bluff. Prisoners from the cavalry represent General Dearing's brigade, of W. H. F. Lee's division. Have a complete organization of the enemy's cavalry, which I will forward this a. m.

J. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: One lieutenant and twenty-seven men, prisoners of war, have just been received from the headquarters of the Fifth Army Corps. They were captured last evening and this morning. They fully represent the entire division of General Heth, and are from nearly every regiment of the division. Four or five of them are from the cavalry, and represent Young's and Dearing's brigades. Only one man from any other division, who belongs to Tenth Georgia, Wright's brigade, Mahone's division. Every regiment of Cooke's and Kirkland's brigades is represented, and several regiments of Archer's and Davis', composing all of Heth's division. They will not give any information, and I think have none of any importance.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Nine contrabands have just been forwarded. They came down the Appomattox from the Pocahontas side last evening in a boat. They state that Hoke's division moved up Sycamore street, down Old street to Campbell's Bridge night before last and crossed the river. Cannot say whether they were going to Chaffin's Bluff or Early. Some infantry moved in the same direction yesterday. Cars were waiting on the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad for troops last night; hospitals being removed to the Chesterfield side yesterday. Can give nothing more definite than the above.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. BABCOCK.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 1, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

A column of infantry has just come out of woods in vicinity of large fort west of the Weldon railroad and moved southward on the railroad; the column was fifteen minutes in passing. No changes or movements visible in other points of the rebel lines.

H. W. FULTON,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
October 1, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

It has been too foggy for observations during the day. The following has been intercepted:

6.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Three trains of cars just passed up on the City Point road; no troops visible on top.

J. Q. E.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

11 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The camps to our left of open space have been increased. A transport just stopped at [Strahan's?] Lower Landing. Two gun-boats above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., October 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

GENERAL: Please have the kindness to send to these headquarters, without delay, a statement by regiments (exclusive of the Engineer Brigade) of the troops under your command guarding the defenses of City Point. It is essential that the number of each regiment, or skeleton of a regiment, with their supposed strength, be communicated to these headquarters.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. S. PARKER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

Statement of troops for the defense of City Point, October 1, 1864.

Name or designation.	Officers present for duty.	Number of men present for duty.	Number of guns.
2d Battery Maine Volunteers	3	117	4
Provisional battery light artillery	1	42	4
Troops ordered by General Butler to report to General Benham:			
205th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers	32	827	.....
200th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers	34	781	.....
Total	70	1,767	8
Colonel Gates' command on the 19th of September:			
20th New York	.....	200	.....
Colored troops	.....	460	.....
Total	70	2,427	8

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General PATRICK:

As it is probable that the troops of your command now stationed at Prince George Court-House and the fort on the Norfolk road will have to remain there some little time, the commanding general directs that you so inform the commanding officer of the detachments in order that they may make their arrangements accordingly.

Very respectfully, &c.,

CHAS. E. PEASE,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—1 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

The lateness of the hour at which your order* was received makes it a difficult matter to execute it before daylight. I have, however, taken all the steps in my power to get out Mott's division, or as much of it as possible, and have ordered it to be massed in rear of the Avery house.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—7 a. m. (Received 7.20 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A deserter from Sixtieth Alabama, Gracie's brigade, Johnson's division, came in this morning. Says there is nothing new opposite, the lines being held by about two divisions. He was a courier for Gracie. Says they say Early had a fight in which he was successful day before yesterday.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—8 a. m. (Received 8.25 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Mott's division is now relieved, and part of it massed behind the Avery house; the rest on the plank road in rear of the Chieves house. One regiment and a section of battery is still down the plank road at Williams' house. Last night I drew out one field battery from the line and put it in Battery 17, from which it can be moved during the daytime if desirable. The First Division extends from the river to Fort Meikel.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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* See dispatch of September 30, 11.50 p. m., Part II, p. 1128.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

No changes in the lines of this corps during the last twenty-four hours. Mortars have been put in position by the enemy opposite Fort McGilvery and Battery No. 9, from which they fired a few shots last night. Firing has been kept up during the past twenty-four hours on the new works which the enemy are building opposite our right.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—9.10 a. m. (Received 10.12 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Mott's division has been entirely withdrawn from line except his pickets. No change reported in enemy's line. Petersburg papers of the 29th forwarded. Chief of artillery reports that during the cannonade yesterday evening the enemy replied more feebly than usual. Two 8-inch guns to right and left of Fort Morton appear to have been removed; at least, they have not fired for two days.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The major-general commanding directs that General Mott's division be sent to General Parke at the Peebles house, near Poplar Spring Church. He will report to General Parke. He will not need any artillery. Trains of cars will take his troops to the Weldon railroad close to Warren's headquarters, where they will give him some one to show him the road to Peebles'. Mott's troops should be got at once to the woods near his headquarters, where there is a railroad station. Those on the plank road should be brought to the station near Jones' house. Sixty cars will be ordered—all there are on the road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

There were two divisions of Hill attacking Parke and Warren yesterday. Butler reports that at least one of Hill's divisions was in the attack on him, and is inclined to believe there were at least two of Hill's divisions there, as well as Hoke's and Field's divisions, leaving two divisions of Lee's army south of the Appomattox, what, with the forces before Butler and before our left, that in the intrenchments must be weak.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Mott should take the ammunition train allowed with troops and ambulances, &c. Supply wagons should go over to Weldon railroad in order to let him fill up his haversacks. In speaking in previous dispatch of railroad station near Mott's headquarters, I referred to his old headquarters near trestle railroad bridge.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—11 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

General Mott has been ordered in accordance with your dispatch. His field return shows 6,001 enlisted men for duty and 324 officers. He leaves about 300 men on picket. I could not relieve them on account of the lateness of the hour the order was received. Nine negroes who left Petersburg at 9 last evening were sent to your headquarters a short time ago. They report that the line in front of Petersburg was thinned out last night, about one brigade having been gotten out. They were not, however, closely questioned.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General MEADE:

General Mott's division will bring about 5,000 men, I suppose, and as it is comparatively well officered, I think it will do very well and may at a critical time turn the tide. I hope circumstances may admit of its being put in in mass if it is called upon, as I think it will do much better than by brigades; it is now loading.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

I will add that Gregg's cavalry will fight remarkably well dismounted, holding a defensive position.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 28th ultimo* to Lieutenant-Colonel Bowers, assistant adjutant-general, headquarters Armies of the United States, in relation to General Orders, No. 37, of September 23,

* See Part II, p. 1071.

1864, from these headquarters, in relation to colors lost in battle, was only forwarded according to its address and has been returned with an indorsement of which the following is a copy:

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., September 30, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

General Orders, No. 37, headquarters Army of the Potomac, being general in its operation, applying to all regiments or batteries, is approved. The right of any officer commanding troops to reverse any order or action of his subordinate is undoubted. In this case General Hancock might properly have reversed General Gibbon's action, but such action having been approved by a superior commander the order must be respected by General Hancock until he can get the same revoked by authority higher than the commanding general. The right of any officer to appeal from decisions of his superior and carry it through to the highest military authority cannot be denied, but until a final reversion is obtained all orders must be respected and obeyed.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. S. PARKER,
Lieut. Col., Military Secretary and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—1 a. m.

General Miles, commanding First Division, will at once relieve as much of General Gibbon's division as possible by putting in his reserves and holding the line connecting the batteries and inclosed works with a mere skirmish line. General Gibbon will relieve General Mott as far to the left as possible, putting all his division into the inclosed works except a thin skirmish line connecting. The picket-lines will not be changed. It is hoped that General Miles will be able to occupy as far as the Norfolk railroad, and perhaps to include Fort Meikel, and that General Gibbon may relieve all of General Mott's division, or at least to Fort Davis. General Mott will mass his division out of sight of the enemy between the Avery house and these headquarters. The greatest promptitude is necessary to secure the execution of this order.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major HAZARD,
Chief of Artillery:

General Humphreys wishes a section of artillery to be sent to Prince George Court-House, and another to the fort on the Norfolk railroad. Some headquarters troops are there. I have not a gun. Can you not spare the battery I sent you yesterday? If so, send it or some other down at once. Let me know by telegraph, that I may inform General Meade.

H. J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.*

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Jordan reports nothing new this p. m., except that 100 men passed into town from in front of cemetery. Sergeant Holman reports the following intercepted message:

Colonel B[RENT]:

I have established an observatory in front of General Steuart's brigade in the most commanding view I could find. I observed wagons constantly moving to Fort Harrison. A large flock of beef-cattle are grazing above Dutch Gap. A large number of boats are moving up and down on the James River. From the rock at Drewry's house, I noticed this morning a large decrease in the tents in the woods to the left of open space to our left of Cobb's. No other change.

S.,
Commanding.

(Same to A. B.)

Sergeant Carothers reports all quiet. Nothing new from Captain Thickstun to-day. Holman has sent me the new code nearly complete. Will forward it to you to-morrow.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 1, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General MILES,
First Division:

GENERAL: In case of any movement of the enemy's cavalry to our rear, the general wishes you, when you hear firing down the plank road, or in the direction of the Norfolk road, to immediately move your reserve (it is understood you have several hundred) to the rear of the Avery house, and commence withdrawing the men you have in the rifle-pits, with the exception of a few men to make a show. In case of any contingency of this nature, the general will place you in command of the rear and General Gibbon in command of the front.

Respectfully, &c.,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Col. J. C. LYNCH,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to send to you the inclosed copy of instructions† received from headquarters Second Corps, and to say that if you hear any firing on the plank or Norfolk roads you will at once move your reserve of 800 men to the point indicated in the note inclosed, near the Avery house, but not to disturb the front line, reporting at once to these headquarters any firing from the direction mentioned.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Correct date probably October 12; see p. 178.
† See next, *ante*.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Major-General GIBBON,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you relieve all of General Mott's pickets in your front. The officer in command of General Mott's pickets, when they are relieved, will march his pickets entire, either down the line of intrenchments or down the railroad to General Warren's headquarters, where he can ascertain the whereabouts of his division. General Miles has been directed to relieve all of your pickets in his front.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires to be informed as to what number of your command General Gibbon relieved. He also directs that you keep your troops in readiness to move at a moment's notice. No tents are to be pitched. It is desired that your command shall be concealed from the view of the enemy as far as possible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 1, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Third Division:

The major-general commanding directs that your division move to the Peebles house, near Poplar Spring Church, where you will report to Major-General Parke. A train of sixty cars will be used to transport your division. You can load at the station near the trestle bridge, near your headquarters, and at the Jones house, the regiment at the Williams house to be brought back at once. On arriving at the Weldon road a guide will meet you to conduct you to General Parke. You will take the ammunition train allowed with troops, your ambulances and headquarters spring-wagons, one hospital and one medicine wagon for each brigade. Your supply train, or such part as may be necessary, will move over to the Weldon railroad so that you can fill up the men's haversacks when necessary. No artillery will be needed by you. The troops will be transported by rail to the immediate vicinity of General Warren's headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 1, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General MOTT:
(Care General Parke.)

Your picket-line will be relieved as soon as practicable after dark and ordered to General Warren's headquarters. You had better send some one there to conduct them.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that about 7 p. m. the enemy demonstrated in front of the Second Corps line to our left of Fort Stedman. Our artillery opened vigorously and seemingly with effect. The firing ceased in about half an hour. At about the same time our troops to the right of Fort Stedman made a slight demonstration, the artillery opening for a short time. It is reported that the enemy's two 8-inch guns to the right and my left of Fort Morton have disappeared. No casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—12.15 a. m. (Received 12.20 a. m., 2d.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Butler has Field's and Hoke's divisions and part of Pickett's before him. Lee may send away more troops from this side of the Appomattox. If your reconnaissances show the enemy to have left your front, and the indications are that he has sent off more troops against Butler, it is advisable that you get onto the Boydton plank road. If you deem it practicable, advance to and make a lodgment on it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Major-General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—6.40 a. m.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: General Meade has directed me to instruct you to cause the prisoners captured in yesterday's fight on the left to be subjected to a rigid examination for the purpose of ascertaining of whose troops the enemy were composed, in what force they were.

C. D. EMORY.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—8 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I find the enemy still in position near the Pegram house, where they were last night, and they are making pretty strong demonstrations on General Ayres' right near the Chappell house. They are also opening with artillery on General Ayres' and General Griffin's positions. I expect a hard time.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have withdrawn Hofmann's brigade from the Pegram house, as it was subjected to a cross-fire of artillery, and sent it to re-enforce General Ayres' right. General Ayres has repulsed the assaults upon him. Lieut. Col. E. S. Otis, commanding First Brigade of Ayres' division, is mortally wounded. He is a great loss.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Mott's division is ordered to report to Parke. Gregg is also put under his orders. The commanding general directs that as soon as General Mott joins General Parke you both attack the enemy in your front, and endeavor to turn his right flank. General Meade will start soon for Peebles'.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Nothing special has occurred since my last dispatch. We are at work all along the lines, strengthening them and making roads. I ordered the withdrawal from the Pegram house of Colonel Hofmann's brigade, which was threatened at the time of the attack upon General Ayres. It is, in a measure, a necessity to occupy the line we hold, and that leaves no force to attack with. The quiet of the enemy may indicate that he is intrenching a new line or preparing to attack. We are not strong enough to act offensively, in view of the uncertainties of the enemy's positions, numbers, and movements, but we keep feeling them. A mistake on our part might enable the enemy to reoccupy the points we

have taken. We, therefore, are waiting further developments and securing our position. I would be pleased to know if our course meets the approval of the general commanding.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

Your dispatch of 11.30 a. m. received. Your course, as preliminary to the arrival of Mott's division, is approved by the commanding general. As soon as Mott gets up dispositions must be made to attack.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

YELLOW TAVERN, *October 1, 1864—7 p. m.*

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you move forward and attack to-morrow, as soon after daylight as practicable, in conjunction with General Parke, who has similar orders. You will use your whole force in attacking, except that part in the inclosed works of the regular line of intrenchments. General Parke will show you his instructions, which will acquaint you with the views of the major-general commanding.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—evening.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: From what I know of our and General Lee's relative strength I do not think we can extend our lines further around Petersburg without great risk. If we design, by such continued extensions, ultimately to make him abandon Petersburg, and if the complete envelopment of it from river-bank to river-bank is practicable, I think it altogether to be expected that when we reach our fullest development he will, by a concentrated effort, break our lines and compel us to fall back to the James with much loss of material. If Petersburg is worth the efforts we are making, it is worth that effort from General Lee, and he will make it before evacuation of the place. Now, I would propose the establishment of a very strong position on the Weldon railroad, with a supply of stores and competent garrison, and then, assembling all our force, place ourselves on the South Side Railroad and destroy it. This would undoubtedly bring on a general battle, which would decide whether General Lee could keep the field against us or not. If he could not, we should thus compel him to retire within his defenses, and a siege proper could begin. If he beats us, we can retire upon the position on the Weldon railroad or upon the James. This last is a supposition which our calculations do not admit of. If it be said General Lee might refuse us battle and come out between us and our base and fortify, we

* See Humphreys to Parke, 6.45 p. m., p. 26.

could prepare several roads to the James on which to retire for supplies if necessary; or we could attack him or Petersburg, one of which would be held by half or less of his force. If we go on as we are going, with our ultimate point of occupation so distant, we shall finally become powerless for offensive operations, perhaps before it is reached, all our forces being required to hold our lines against attacks from the front or cavalry raids in our rear. We need time to get our new levies in order, and no matter how great the pressure, we cannot succeed with them till they have at least acquired the knowledge of the rudiments of their drill and discipline. Another effect of our operating at the same time on two such distant flanks is to make the commander at each point apprehensive of being greatly outnumbered by the enemy, which is always practicable for him to do at one or the other, and thus inevitably produce want of boldness and vigor on our part, unless we neglect more than any of us are willing to do. Then, I would again urge, let us give up all our investing line, except one point at most, and again take the field with our whole army. I do not wish to urge my views for any personal object, nor wish them to be considered as finding fault with other plans, but I am so convinced of the justness of what I advance and of its importance to our corps that I present them to you at all hazards, and you are at liberty to make use of this communication in any way you please to.

Respectfully submitted.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that in his judgment the movements of the enemy indicate his intention to make a pretty strong attack upon us this evening. He wishes you to keep well on the lookout. A note just received from General Crawford states that there has been a good deal of picket-firing on the right of our line, about where the enemy broke through on the 19th ultimo. The enemy advanced a skirmish-line this morning (about 12 m.) upon our right of the railroad. The dense woods prevents the view of a line of battle should the enemy have one there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I have about 500 men on picket in front of General Crawford's division. Those officers and men have been on three days, and I have reliable information that shows that they should be relieved this evening.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: General Crawford has been directed to relieve your pickets this evening. They will be instructed to report here when relieved.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
October 1, 1864—6.45 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

The enemy has put out a line of skirmishers at double-quick and supported it by a line of battle. The line appears to extend from the W. Davis house into the woods north. The line of battle does not advance, and the skirmishers have halted.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
October 1, 1864—7.25 a. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

The enemy advanced a skirmish line and supported it with a line of battle probably 1,000 strong. They have engaged our skirmish line upon the Squirrel Level road. Their line is almost east and west.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
October 1, 1864—11.25 a. m.

Captain MARVIN:

The works about the W. Davis house are full of men; probably the force that advanced this a. m. Troops are moving upon the plank road toward our left, but the fog is so dense that we can neither determine their character nor numbers.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
October 1, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Captain MARVIN:

The enemy are advancing a skirmish line upon our right of the railroad. We cannot see any line in rear of it, but the woods would hide it if there was a line.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS,
Globe Tavern, October 1, 1864. (Received 9 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: The One hundred and eighty-fifth New York Regiment has reported this morning without tents, rations, or ammunition. All these are in charge of the regimental quartermaster at City Point, Lieutenant Gilbert. Please direct that they be sent at once.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—9.10 a. m.

General S. W. CRAWFORD,
Headquarters Fifth Corps:

General Ingalls has been requested to send forward as soon as possible the tents, subsistence, and ammunition of the One hundred and eighty-fifth New York Volunteers.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Globe Tavern, October 1, 1864—9.25 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The thirteen prisoners taken this morning belong as follows: Three from Walker's brigade, of Heth's division; seven from Archer's brigade, of Heth's division; three from Dearing's brigade of cavalry; one officer, aide-de-camp to General Dunovant (cavalry). A deserter, just brought in, reports that he belongs to Twenty-sixth Mississippi, of Davis' brigade, of Heth's division. He says the whole of Heth's division is here and that some said Wilcox was on the right. He says that the works yesterday were defended in part by Dearing's brigade of cavalry, about 1,000 strong. Firing has nearly ceased on the left.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Defenses.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—12.45 p. m.

[Colonel LOCKE:]

COLONEL: General Crawford wishes me to say that he will send a guard through all the camps to pick up any stragglers there may be. He thinks there are but few of them, however. There has been heavy picket-firing on the right of our line about where the enemy broke through on the 19th of August. Lieutenant Clarke reports half an hour ago "the enemy advancing a skirmish line upon our right of the railroad. We cannot see any line in the rear of it, but the woods would hide it if there was a line." General Meade has not yet arrived here.

Very respectfully,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Your orders about bedding, &c., will be attended to.

M.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
October 1, 1864—1.15 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

The force reported that moved to our right or a similar force has marched out and has gone into the works north of this station. The mist makes observation very difficult. Our skirmish line drove the enemy back to the rifle-pits at the edge of the woods east of railroad.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

PEEBLES' HOUSE, *October 1, 1864.*

General CRAWFORD:

Telegraph line has just been opened to this place. General Humphreys tells me that General Mott's division has been ordered up. Can you inform me where this division now is? All is comparatively quiet here now.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION,
October 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:
(General Parke's Headquarters.)

GENERAL: Mott has arrived and goes forward at once. He has 3,000 men and there are 1,500 to follow—600 of De Trobriand's brigade, 700 of Pierce's brigade, and 125 men of McAllister's.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

General Meade forgot two dispatches here, which I have.

S. W. C.

(Same to Major-General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Globe Tavern, October 1, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: The enemy attacked our left this morning at 7 o'clock, and were repulsed. The attack was not severe. At noon they advanced their skirmish line on my left and engaged my skirmishers. Their line reoccupied their works. Gregg has withdrawn and gone to our left. His rear guard was attacked as he withdrew. The troops of your corps are arriving and going to General Parke. Mott has gone on. Heth and Wilcox, and probably Mahone, to-night are with the cavalry, all we can discover to be here. We lost considerably in prisoners yesterday from the Ninth Corps.

Truly, yours,

S. W. CRAWFORD.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, October 1, 1864—5 p. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs you to relieve General Ayres' pickets this evening with a detail of 200 men. This force is not intended to fight, but as a lookout so as to give timely warning to the fort. General Ayres' pickets, when relieved, will report here. Please give instructions accordingly.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—5.55 p. m.

General WARREN,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Your order is received. Ayres' pickets will be at once relieved by General Baxter, as I cannot spare any more men from General Bragg. He is picketing in front of the negro troops as far as Howard. The enemy threw out a strong skirmish line about noon, and advanced into the woods, engaging my skirmishers at a point opposite to the right of my line where Ayres' right formerly rested. Their line of battle advanced to their works. Ferrero has just reported that the enemy are feeling his lines to the right of Fort Howard, but have not shown any force as yet. All else is quiet. The new troops are in the works from Wadsworth to the right. I replaced the battery in 26 when the picket-firing began. The fog is heavy and impedes all view from the signal station. I greatly rejoice in your success of yesterday and only regret I was not with you.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 1, 1864—7.55 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The enemy about 5.20 p. m. advanced a strong skirmish line on Ferrero's right near Fort Howard. He has just reported that their skirmish line fell back after receiving our fire. I have just received the 7.30 dispatch of the major-general commanding and will advance all I have under my command at daylight. I will be guided by the instructions I received this p. m. and will act independently of my flanks.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Captain MARVIN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: It is probable that we shall make a demonstration in our front to-morrow at daylight. I wish the signal officer to be at his post as soon as it is light, and communicate with me any movement in my front after the attack on the left commences. If the enemy leave their works let me know it at once. He can send to you. Please see that the signal officer is informed to-night.

Very respectfully

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—5.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

Your dispatches of 11.50 September 30* and 12.15 October 1 just received. I very much fear that my loss is much heavier than I supposed it to be at the time you left yesterday, still I hope when the stragglers are all brought in that I may find I am mistaken. Before we withdrew to our present line, scouting parties reported the enemy still in position along the edge of wood just north of J. Pegram's. Before sending out a reconnaissance from my corps, I would much prefer making ourselves secure in our present position, which I cannot fully ascertain and realize until after daylight, still I will do the best I can to acquire the desired information.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The enemy have advanced on General Warren and he is momentarily expecting an attack on Ayres. The enemy opened with artillery both on Ayres and on our force in the vicinity of Pegram's house. This force has been withdrawn and we now hold the intrenchments strong. No advance has yet been made. General Gregg is now here and will send a dispatch.

Respectfully,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Mott's division has been ordered to report to you. It will be sent in cars as far as Weldon railroad. General Gregg is directed

* See 11.45 p. m., Part II, p. 1138.

to move up to your left and co-operate with you. You will assume command of his troops also. As soon as Mott joins you, you and General Warren will attack the enemy and endeavor to envelop his right flank. Mott will have 5,000 or 6,000 men, and Gregg between 3,000 and 4,000. Gregg will, of course, form part of your fighting force. The major-general commanding will start for the Peebles house soon.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

YELLOW TAVERN, *October 1, 1864—2 p. m.*

Major-General PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

One brigade of Mott's division has arrived here and is leaving for your headquarters. The division will now continue to arrive rapidly.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Peebles', October 1, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Any advance that we may be able to make this evening may result in the taking of the Pegram house, but I think nothing further. The enemy have artillery at that point, but there is no positive evidence of any heavy force, although there is slight skirmishing toward that position, and to the right. The ground is getting very soft. No change has been made in my lines. When General Mott arrives I propose forming Willcox and Potter and moving them on to the Pegram house and use Mott to support and extend to the left. Will Major-General Meade be here? General Warren will advance Griffin's division, but Ayres will not be able to make any advance.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

YELLOW TAVERN, *October 1, 1864—3 p. m.*

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: General Meade and staff have just left for your headquarters. Will you please send some of your mounted orderlies to report to me for the purpose of conducting the troops as they arrive to you? Send for the stragglers, &c. I am sending those from the Fifth Corps forward.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Major-General PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you move forward as soon after daylight to-morrow as practicable and attack the enemy, moving in such a way as will strike him most effectually, probably by throwing forward your left and endeavoring to turn his right flank.

The object being finally to effect a lodgment upon the Boydton plank road, within reach of the South Side Railroad, or, if we prove to be strong enough, to follow the enemy closer to Petersburg. These being the objects, you must be governed by circumstances in the extent by which you endeavor to secure them. Major-General Warren is ordered to attack with you with all his force excepting that left with the forts on the Weldon railroad. You will use General Gregg in such manner as will most effectually aid you, either by forcing his way up the road past Hawks' and coming in on your left, or by attacking the enemy in the vicinity of his present position.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Army Corps:

General Gregg reports that Hampton is in front of him with four brigades, and he expects to be attacked in the morning. Send him a brigade if he calls on you for support. He is told to call on you if he needs it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—6 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: General Davies' brigade did not get back to Davis' until between 1 and 2 o'clock this morning. General Dunovant's (formerly Butler's) brigade was met after dark on the telegraph road, near Armstrong's. One of General D.'s staff officers captured reports that General Hampton's cavalry were engaged with our infantry (Fifth and Ninth Corps) yesterday. The order for a movement of my command did not reach me until after 5 o'clock this morning. I will get off as soon as possible. As I am ordered to move with my command I will withdraw my pickets in this section. I have not yet had opportunity to issue forage and rations.

Respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: On my arrival here General Parke informed me that the object of the intended reconnaissances has been fully accomplished—the enemy found. Upon consultation with Generals Warren and Parke I will make disposition to protect Parke's left and the rear of the line.

The best position for my command to do this is on the Vaughan road and about Davis' house. General Dunovant's brigade is near the Armstrong house. I will dispose my command about Davis' and on the Vaughan road.

Yours,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: As my rear guard was leaving Davis' house the enemy attacked, using artillery, and took possession of the place. I am now driving them back to regain the position and establish a brigade there.

Respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Davis' House, October 1, 1864—12.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have driven the enemy back to Wilkinson's, beyond which they have two guns. The enemy have both mounted and dismounted forces. To drive them back, my force has to be dismounted. I will occupy this position with one brigade, and the other in rear as the enemy appear toward Dinwiddie road.

Respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—2 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

Your dispatch of 12.45 p. m. is received. Attack the force at Wilkinson's and develop its strength, and, if you can, drive it across the Rowanty. It is important that our whole force should engage the enemy in this quarter—that is, outside of the intrenchments. General Mott's leading brigade has just arrived here and is moving out to Parke. The whole division will soon be here, and as soon as it reaches Parke dispositions will be made to attack the enemy near the Peebles house, and the attack will be made as soon as practicable. If you can occupy an equal or greater force of the enemy than your own, and keep them from joining those we attack, it will be equivalent to joining the attack here, particularly if you beat them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The attack upon my brigade at Wilkinson's was made by Butler's division, both brigades being engaged as reported by a staff officer of General Young captured. My line at Wilkinson's was forced back on the Vaughan road to Davis'. The attack is reported to have been very strong and made in front and on both flanks. I think the enemy are withdrawing their dismounted forces and establishing mounted pickets. The chain of vedettes in front of the Vaughan road on the right of Davis' was broken, but is being re-established. This position is difficult to hold, as the enemy can bring their dismounted force in so many directions through the dense woods surrounding it. I have not yet ascertained the loss in my command this p. m.

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have a wounded prisoner of Davis' brigade, who reports his whole brigade having been here to-day. The report of General Young's staff officer shows that four brigades of Hampton's are now here, Hampton commanding. I can only fight six regiments and a battery, but these will make a strong resistance if we are attacked again in the morning. I will be all ready in the morning.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 1, 1864—10 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG:

Your dispatch is received announcing the presence of Davis' brigade. Call on General Parke for support if you deem it necessary, as you undoubtedly will be attacked in the morning.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG, *Commanding Division:*

GENERAL: The following is an extract of orders received from headquarters Army of the Potomac:

> You will use General Gregg in such manner as will most effectually aid you, either by forcing his way up the road past Hawks' and coming in on your left, or by attacking the enemy in the vicinity of his present position.

The general commanding directs me to say to you that the infantry is ordered to be in readiness to move at 7 in the morning, and that he relies mainly upon your own judgment in the execution of so much of to-morrow's operations as depends upon your movements. The commanding general directs me to say also that he desires you either to

communicate with him to-night, through the officer who will hand you this, or report to him in person at these headquarters at 6 in the morning or as soon thereafter as practicable.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *October 1, 1864—3 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The following dispatch* from General Meade is forwarded for your information. Under existing circumstances you must discard the idea of receiving re-enforcements, and if attacked make the best defense you can with the troops with you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 1, 1864—6 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

All quiet so far. I have sent for Second New Hampshire and General Marston from Fort Pocahontas. Shall we see you to-day? I have ordered the Greyhound to report to you.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 1, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER, *Deep Bottom:*

I will try to get out to your headquarters some time before 12 o'clock. Before starting I want to have the result of General Meade's movements.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 1, 1864—6.55 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point:*

The following dispatch, just received, is forwarded for the information of the lieutenant-general commanding:

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, General Butler's Headquarters:

The rebels have evacuated the small battery in front of my left and have gone apparently to the next redoubt toward my right. My picket-line is being advanced.

Respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copy to Major-General Weitzel, commanding Eighteenth Corps.)

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* See Meade to Grant, 11.30 p. m. September 30, Part II, p. 1122.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 1, 1864—10.45 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

From deserters and prisoners captured it is ascertained that Johnson's, Mahone's, Heth's, and Wilcox's divisions are about Petersburg. I start for your headquarters as soon as I can write some dispatches.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 1, 1864—7.15 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Deep Bottom:

Prisoners were yesterday taken from Anderson's brigade, Field's division. The presence of Wilcox's, Heth's, Mahone's, and Johnson's divisions was also shown about Petersburg. This shows that the enemy have divided divisions, and possibly brigades, to give the appearance of force at all points.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 1, 1864—8.55 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

I have received no official report of the reconnaissance. Lieutenant Michie, who was with it, has returned. General Terry penetrated as far as the intrenchments on the Darbytown road without opposition. General Kautz crossed the Charles City road without opposition as far as the line of fortifications, which he found held in considerable force, but not large force of infantry. General Kautz crossed the Charles City road and exchanged shots with the enemy at a point in the fortifications where they cross that road. General Birney advanced his pickets along the New Market road and drove their skirmishers into their works, capturing some prisoners who were all of local defense battalions. I have seen one or two of them. All is quiet.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 1, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Deep Bottom:

I think it will be advisable to select a line which can be held with one of your corps as now composed, giving you an outlet at Deep Bottom or Aiken's. The other corps could be kept on the north side as well as elsewhere, but held ready for any emergency. The line now held, it seems to me, would always expose you to a flank or rear attack, and would cause the enemy to so prepare that no surprise on that side could again be made. The strong works about Chaffin's farm should be held or leveled. Sheridan, for want of supplies, if there should be no other reasons, will be forced to fall back. The enemy may take

advantage of such an occurrence to bring the remnant of Early's force here, relying upon his ability to get it back to the Valley before Sheridan could fit up and return. In such case he could fall upon either flank as now exposed, and inflict great damage.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Junction of Varina and New Market Roads,
October 1, 1864—11.55 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Will prepare to take up such line as you propose to-morrow. As General Barnard and Colonel Comstock have been over the ground as well as yourself, please advise me what line to take, as to its extent and advanced posts. Of course it must be a much shorter one than the present.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *October 1, 1864.*

Lieutenant DAVENPORT,
General Butler's Staff:

We think that Hoke and Field have gone up in front of you; that Bushrod Johnson and Mahone hold the line from the Appomattox to the lead-works, and that Heth and Wilcox are on the enemy's right. Can you give us anything to prove or disprove, or can you locate any part of enemy's forces?

SHARPE,
Colonel.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 101. } *City Point, Va., October 1, 1864.*

I. Brig. Gen. George H. Gordon, U. S. Volunteers, will report without delay to Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina, for assignment.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. S. PARKER,
Lieut. Col., Military Secretary and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

OCTOBER 1, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Unless you know some movement of the enemy of which I am not informed which should vary the situation, you will please take two brigades of Terry's division and make a reconnaissance in force up the Darbytown road toward Richmond. You may be able to get through. I inclose an order for General Kautz to co-operate with you if you move, of which please let me know. Also send you a report from General

Weitzel, which will show that the enemy are looking for your right. That being so, General Terry's brigades may not be out of place on the Darbytown road.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—1.55 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: At 1.25 the infantry column reached the Central road and is now advancing. General Kautz sends a brigade up Charles City road and the other takes the advance up the Darby or Central road. Eight guns go with the Central road column and two with Charles City column. My line here is all ready. There are no movements of enemy discovered in my front. I shall also make a demonstration on New Market road, driving in their pickets.

Yours, respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The column on the Central road have found infantry in pretty strong force three miles from the city. A column of rebel troops seen marching from our left to right; about a brigade. This force is in plain sight in opening behind the force in our front. Shots are heard also from Charles City column. On New Market road have driven enemy's pickets to their works with a charge.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the James:

COLONEL: I have driven their pickets in confusion across my right into the field up to their works, and now hold Varina road and position occupied by me day before yesterday. They ran without much fight.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—4.35 p. m.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the James:

I see no reason for recalling General Terry. I am about to send a force (small) on his left to demonstrate. I have ordered him to attack any force outside main works. Prisoners all say that they have only militia on our right. If nothing can be done he will return after dark.

Yours, respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy tried to turn my right flank of skirmish line, which was repulsed handsomely. Enemy opened on the Darby column with two heavy batteries and one field piece, but little musketry. No firing heard from Charles City road. The main line of works is in plain sight and the column is directed toward them. We have only used one section (3-inch). I still hold up to their works at Varina junction. Heavy skirmishing.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, October 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the James:

The few prisoners taken in our charge on the pickets on the New Market road are all of the militia, quartermaster, naval, &c. General Terry's advance is at the Powell house on the Central road. A column reported to be a large one is in sight. I will be all prepared on my left near the work.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, General Butler's Headquarters:

The rebels have evacuated the small battery in front of my left, and have gone, apparently, to the next redoubt toward my right. My picket-line is being advanced.

Respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General FOSTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: You will select one good regiment and send it as a line of skirmishers to drive in the enemy's pickets on the New Market road. They will make a demonstration, firing on them, and cheering to give the enemy an idea of an attack. This should be done to relieve Generals Terry and Kautz advancing up the Central road. Please report the progress of reconnaissance. You can take a regiment of Plaisted's if you prefer.

Yours, respectfully,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
October 1, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

It is reported to me that the enemy seems to be maneuvering as if about to attempt an assault on our main work.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, October 1, 1864—6.15 p. m.

Major READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Eighteenth Army Corps:

Our pickets on the left, overlooking the open field running down to the river, report having seen a regiment moving up apparently from the enemy's pontoon bridge to our right; also that they heard cheering as if on the pontoon bridge.

C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

OCTOBER 1, 1864.

General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

I have directed General Birney, if the state of things in his front will justify it, to make a reconnaissance up the Darbytown road. You will co-operate with him, keeping a sharp lookout toward New Market. The cavalry force that was there has gone to Richmond.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Doctor Johnson's, Darby Road, October 1, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: Colonel Spear has returned and reports that he drove the enemy into the intrenchments on the Charles City road. He reports seeing about a regiment of cavalry. Thinks if my division had been there it would have gone over the works. Says he could see Richmond very distinctly. He had 3 men wounded, 1 man missing, and 4 horses killed. I hold the same position I did this morning and picket on the Charles City road.

Very respectfully,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 2, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington:*

General Butler, on the right of the James, and General Meade, southwest of Petersburg, occupy the same position as yesterday. There has been very little fighting to-day; a few prisoners, however, have been

captured. General Butler reports having last evening sent two brigades of infantry with a little cavalry within a few hundred yards of the inner line of works east of Richmond, meeting with no opposition.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 2, 1864—8 a. m. (Sent 8.10 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward dispatch* just received from Major-General Parke, being all the information I have to report. Parke's and Warren's losses in killed, wounded, and missing were yesterday estimated at 2,500. As Mott only brings 4,500, the actual re-enforcement is about 2,000.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Globe Tavern, October 2, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Parke and Warren report the enemy having withdrawn from some of the positions occupied yesterday. Signal officers report their main line of works as far as seen heavily manned. The inference is the enemy refuse battle outside their works, to which they have retired awaiting attack. Without your orders I shall not attack their intrenchments, but on being satisfied they are not outside of them I will take up the best position I can, connecting with the Weldon railroad and extending as far to the left as practicable, having in view the protection of my left flank, and then intrench. I should be glad to know your views and orders.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

DEEP BOTTOM, *October 2, 1864—11.10 a. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Carry out what you propose in dispatch of 11 a. m.—that is, intrench and hold what you can, but make no attack against defended fortifications.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *October 2, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

You may shorten the line to the extent you deem necessary to be able to hold it. All you do hold west of the Weldon road be prepared to give up whenever the forces holding it are necessary to defend any other part of the line. I have just returned from Deep Bottom. When I left the enemy were reported advancing down the New Market road.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Parke to Humphreys, 7.45 a. m., p. 44.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

An infantry force not less than 200 had better be left in the redoubt on the Norfolk road. Hancock thinks they could hold it and it will be of importance to hold it. Hancock will supply them. They had better be taken from the One hundred and fourteenth and Sixty-eighth, and the engineers may be wanted on the left.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. J. HUNT:

The commanding general desires that the artillery you have at Prince George Court-House and at the lower redoubt on the Norfolk railroad be withdrawn this morning and ordered to report to Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Army Corps

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

OCTOBER 2, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: Two deserters from Thirty-fifth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division, just forwarded. Came in last night. Johnson's division remains unchanged. Informants have good reason to believe that Hoke's division was sent to Chaffin's Bluff, and afterward recalled, and all or part of it sent to the right beyond the Weldon railroad. It moved from the ravine in the rear a day or two ago and crossed the Appomattox. The cooks of the Thirty-fifth North Carolina, who are stationed to the rear in Petersburg, reported yesterday that all, or part of it, had been recalled and sent to the right. Two prisoners of war from Forty-eighth Mississippi, Harris' brigade, Mahone's division, taken last night, report that no change has been made in the position of Mahone's division. They are not reliable, however.

Yours, respectfully,

J. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

At 5.30 p. m. a column of infantry, about 2,000, came out on road west of Weldon railroad from the direction of Petersburg, and disappeared in woods on the right of the large fort west of the railroad. Seventeen ambulances went in toward Petersburg, coming from the left along the Weldon railroad.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

(Forwarded to Lieutenant-General Grant at 8 p. m.)

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the following from my stations in addition to the dispatch forwarded: Several camps upon the north bank of the Appomattox northwest from Pocahontas have disappeared. Forty ambulances came toward Petersburg from the direction of Richmond; also one regiment of infantry. The lookout at the plank road station states there is some evidence of a slight increase in numbers in the intrenchments in front of that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

(Forwarded to General Grant at 8 p. m.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 2, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The commanding general has directed that the camp of these headquarters move at 11 a. m. to-day to the vicinity of the Weldon railroad. The infantry detachments and the artillery at Prince George Court-House and at the lower redoubt on the Norfolk railroad will be withdrawn this morning. The detachments of cavalry are ordered to remain at both places, and to be reported to you. The artillery has also been ordered to report to you.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—10.10 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Four negroes and one refugee from Petersburg have just been brought in. They confirm what has already been heard, that Wilcox started away on Wednesday, but returned when the fight commenced on the left. They say that during the past week Government stores and the property of citizens have been removed from Petersburg, and the sick and wounded taken away. They do not know what troops are opposite me, except Johnson's division on my right. The laborers in machine-shops, &c., who could be spared, have been placed in the intrenchments to take the place of troops moved toward our left during the fighting. I have sent them up to your old headquarters. Two of them are very intelligent boys.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864. (Received 11.10 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

A deserter from Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division, has been brought in. He has nothing new. Says the men would make one good

line, about elbow to elbow. Where he is there are few pieces of artillery in the front line, the most of it being in the large works in rear, commanding the first.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 2, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Our advance this a. m. found the enemy withdrawn from their position of last night. Parke and Warren are developing their position. From reports of signal officers I infer they have retired to their former and main line of works; if so, I shall take up a position, connect with the Weldon road, guard my left flank, and await attack, unless otherwise directed. The battery around the Jordan house, No. 4, requires a garrison of about 150 men and should be inclosed. Please have one detailed and let the work be done.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

We are all prepared for Lee if he desires to come. Our line is extended over two miles to the west of the Weldon railroad. Pretty well intrenched already. No appearance of an advance as yet. Have you seen the article in Richmond Enquirer of 27th, copied in Herald of 30th, fifth page, bottom of column?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A Petersburg paper of October 1, just received, has been sent to you by orderly. It contains an account of operations on both ends of the line, but I notice nothing very important. The cavalry picket at Mount Zion Church was fired on this evening about an hour before dark. Two parties of the enemy of five men each were seen.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

I have the honor to report that yesterday at about 4 p. m. a section of the Fourteenth Massachusetts Battery was moved into Fort Bross, and a section of the Third Vermont Battery was taken from Battery No. 17 and put in position at Prince George Court-House. The other

section of the Fourteenth Massachusetts is in position in Battery 37. Nothing of importance occurred on the line during the past twenty-four hours. Very little firing by the artillery. No casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. John N. Craig, assistant adjutant-general, artillery headquarters, Army of the Potomac.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of General Orders, No. 37, headquarters Army of the Potomac, approving my action in regard to regiments losing their colors in battle. My order was originally published for the benefit of my own command, under the impression that I had power to act in the premises. Now, as the rule is made general in this army, the three regiments mentioned in my order ought not to be made to suffer the disgrace alone when others in other corps, in this corps, and even in this division, have also lost their colors. I therefore respectfully request that the order may be made to commence from the same date for all, or, what would perhaps be better, not made retrospective, but apply to all regiments losing their colors hereafter. Another regiment in this division lost its colors in the same action (Reams') but was not included in my order, because the regiment itself was captured and the circumstances could not be investigated.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

Brigade commanders will hold their commands well in hand, vigilant to the utmost, and under arms at daylight.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 2, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

General Crawford was instructed last evening to keep a watch upon the enemy in his front and make demonstrations of attack in order to keep him (the enemy) in the intrenchments in his front. If, however, the enemy should greatly weaken the force in his front and afford him a favorable opportunity he was to attack. The commanding general has directed him this morning to communicate with you before making any serious movement.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
At Weldon Railroad, October 2, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

There appears to be a doubt with General Crawford whether General Bragg forms a part of his command, and if he is to look after him under any circumstances, or whether Bragg is to receive his orders from you, or General Ayres, or any one else.*

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
On Weldon Railroad, October 2, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Appearances indicate that the enemy has withdrawn to his main line of intrenchments. Upon this being ascertained with certainty it is the intention of the commanding general to take up the best line for connecting with the Weldon railroad, and making the left secure, and then to intrench. It is not his intention at present to do more than this. He will neither attack the main intrenchments nor attempt to effect a lodgment on the Boydton plank road. You will be governed in your movements by these considerations.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Parke, commanding Ninth Corps.)

General AYRES:

I send you this dispatch, received since I sent you the order to take the fort at the Davis house.† I will try to come up and see you soon. Unless it can be done easily I do not care much about it, as I believe you are on the best line for us to occupy now.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

YELLOW TAVERN SIGNAL STATION,
October 2, 1864—8 a. m. (Received 11.30 a. m.)

Captain MARVIN:

We had a good view of the enemy's lines. They have removed all the guns and most of the force from about the W. Davis house. There they only show a thin skirmish line. The main works north of station are unusually full of men, or, rather, they show themselves more freely. The fog prevents any extended observations.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

(Copies sent to Generals Parke and Ayres.)

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* For answer, see Warren to Crawford, 11.50 a. m., p. 43.
† See Warren to Ayres, 11.50 a. m., p. 43.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
October 2, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain MARVIN.

The enemy ran back from their rifle-pits about the W. Davis house. Officers rallied them about the barn north of Davis' house. From the sound of the firing our forces have steadily advanced and are still going ahead.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
October 2, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Captain MARVIN:

Our troops are in and around the W. Davis house. The enemy are in pits northeast of the house. We hold all the works that can be seen around that point. Our line east of railroad remains unchanged.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
October 2, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Captain MARVIN:

Our men fell back from the W. Davis house and the rebels advanced their line so as to occupy it. There was no firing upon either side. The rebels opened fire from a gun within main works and burst two shells in the vicinity of the Davis house before our people left.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

Captain MARVIN, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: If nothing happens to prevent, the major-general commanding will return to the Globe Tavern to-night. See Captain Hilton and have everything in readiness about the tents, &c. Inform General Crawford of this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Brigadier-General AYRES, *Commanding Second Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires you to have your men pack their tents and get everything ready prepared for a movement.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, October 2, 1864—11.50 a. m.

General AYRES:

If you think you can take the fort at the Davis house give it a trial, and if captured hold it. It will develop what the enemy is doing. Everything but cavalry, as far as we have found out, has left this neighborhood.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 2, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General CRAWFORD,
Comdg. Division, Warren's Hdqrs., on the Weldon Railroad:

The commanding general wishes you to communicate with General Warren, before making any serious movement, upon the appearance of a favorable opportunity.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS SIGNAL STATION,
October 2, 1864—11.40 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

At 11 o'clock the enemy moved four guns and twenty-five wagons to our right on the plank road. Their skirmishers have again fallen back and are now in the field north and east of the W. Davis house. A battery in front of General Ayres opened upon the enemy and fired four or five shots.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—11.50 a. m.

General CRAWFORD, *Globe Tavern:*

GENERAL: I placed General Bragg to hold the Vaughan road, and he must be instructed to do so; if he is driven away, to fall back upon your position. With this object in view, you may consider him still under your direct command.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.

(Copy to Major-General Humphreys, chief of staff.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 2, 1864—7.40 a. m.

Major-General PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

What is the condition of things with you this morning?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 2, 1864—7.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Mott is now moving to take position on my left. As soon as he is in position I will advance the whole line. I have no word from Gregg since his report of last night.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Our skirmishers report the Pegram house unoccupied. We are now moving forward to occupy that position. Mott is moving out to the west and will connect with our line from the Pegram house. General Warren, finding no enemy in his immediate front except at the Davis house, and his line running all the way through woods, is withdrawing his troops from the line to advance with the right of mine.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
On Weldon Railroad, October 2, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

We are here on our way to your headquarters. Will remain a short time to see Crawford and then go out to you. What is the condition of things with you and Warren?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Yours of 10.45 received. I have, as yet, no report from General Mott. I learn from one of my own staff that he occupied, some time since, the enemy's rifle-pits to the westward of the left of our position of yesterday. I judge little or no opposition. Some skirmishing now going on. I have a continual line of skirmishers from his front to the front of the Pegram house, which is now occupied by us. General Warren has moved Griffin up to the right of me and has gone out himself to the front. General Ayres represents that the enemy's sharpshooters are concentrated about the W. Davis house. This is corroborated by report from signal station near Yellow Tavern, just received. A copy will be sent General Ayres.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 2, 1864—8.15 p. m. (Sent 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Will you send a brief memorandum of what you have done to-day, with losses incurred and names of officers killed and wounded.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

This morning General Mott's division moved out on the Squirrel Level road, and after taking position on the left of the Ninth Corps the whole left of our line, which had been repaired during the night previous, was advanced, and with it the left of the Fifth Corps. The movement resulted in our reoccupying the Pegram house and extending our left to the westward from that point. The only opposition met was a skirmish [line] of the enemy until our extreme left, Mott's division, came upon a battery in position. By my direction, General Mott deployed a brigade to develop the position and force of the enemy. It was found they had four guns in position, supported by infantry. This was accompanied by a slight loss on our part. The detailed report of losses has not yet been received. In the advance of General Mott in the morning he found line of the enemy's rifle-pits extending off to the westward of Peebles' as far as the cross-roads at J. Smith's, where the enemy had a strong redoubt surrounded by heavy slashing. In the afternoon we again retired, our left taking up the line from Pegram's, south of the Squirrel Level road.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I directed Generals Willcox and Potter to be ready to move at 7 o'clock; also General Mott. General Mott is now here, and I am momentarily expecting Willcox and Potter. I will throw these divisions around to the right, and Mott will pass to our left and connect with Willcox. As soon as these officers arrive I will go to your headquarters. Gregg reports that Hampton is in front of him with four brigades, and he expected to be attacked this morning. General Meade directs that I send him a brigade if he calls on me for support.

Yours,

JNO. G. PARKE.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

General PARKE:

I find in our advance to-day General Griffin obliqued so much to the left that you will have to relieve his left brigade to enable him to con-

nect with General Ayres. This is of necessity. I shall come out along the line in the morning to correct errors and will, of course, come to see you. Show this to General Griffin.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

Major-General MOTT, *Commanding Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding instructs me to say to you that he desires you to see that your troops keep a sharp lookout on the enemy, and that they are up and under arms by daylight in the morning. He requests also that you keep your picket-line well connected with the division on your right. General Gregg has just reported that he has two regiments of cavalry on our left, and the general commanding desires you to ascertain their whereabouts and keep up connection between your pickets and the reserve cavalry pickets. The slashing in your front is to be continued. Lieutenant Remington is here, and will furnish any tools you may want.

Respectfully, &c.,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. O. B. WILLCOX,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding instructs me to say to you that he desires you to keep a sharp lookout on the enemy and to see that your troops are up and under arms by daylight in the morning. He requests also that you keep your picket-line well connected with the divisions on your right and left and properly located. The slashing on your front is to be continued.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Brigade commanders will see that the picket-line in their front is well established, and that they connect on the right and left. The utmost vigilance is enjoined. Lieutenant Holway will furnish all the tools required to continue the slashing, &c.

By command of Brigadier-General Willcox:

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Aiken's House, Va., October 2, 1864.

Major BAIRD,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Major-General Meade, on his way up, informed me that the right of my line had been driven in and part of it captured, and expressed his

surprise that I had not received the information. I have just received the following report from my brigade commander:

I have the honor to say that there was considerable firing just at daylight, and one post on the picket-line came in, but was immediately replaced by the officer in charge of that part of the line. No men were captured, and all is now quiet.

C. S. RUSSELL,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

The general must have been misinformed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDW. FERRERO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—2 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say to you that he has received instructions from headquarters Army of the Potomac to send you a brigade if you should call on him for support, and that he is prepared to do so if it becomes, in your judgment, necessary.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—11.10 [a. m.].

General GREGG:

I would like you to post a force at or near Miss Pegram's, and to increase the cavalry force now on our left, to protect the left and rear of General Mott's division.

Yours, &c.,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch of this p. m. Am sorry I did not see you this evening, but I presume you got all the information as to the state of things from General Meade, and am glad to hear you have made your dispositions accordingly. When you went out on the Squirrel Level road you passed the left of our position of last evening. This is the left of our present line. Am sorry to trouble you too much, but I would be glad to see you to-morrow at your convenience.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 2, 1864—12.30 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I will send Barnard and Comstock up in the morning, but don't let this make any difference in your plans for to-morrow. General Meade will feel out in the morning to ascertain what is in his front at different points in his line, and if there is a chance for an attack on his left he will make it. His main object in feeling at different points in his front will be to ascertain whether the enemy has stripped any portion of his line.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 2, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

Upon consultation with Generals Birney and Weitzel we are of opinion, from what we learn from the reconnaissance of yesterday, that we can go in with one corps, and certainly with both, by the Darbytown road and Charles City road. There are no troops there except the militia, composed of the employés of the several departments of the Government, and as we made two reconnaissances in that neighborhood, which are supposed by them to be cavalry reconnaissances only, their attention will be drawn from that place, especially if, as you believe, Lee looks upon this as the feint and the real attack to be made on the south side. My judgment is that this plan is more hopeful than any other, especially in view of the several attempts that have been made by the Army of the Potomac to turn the right and the want of successful accomplishment. To do this we ought to have a corps sent to take our place behind our skirmish line, on the line we now hold, while we advance. A corps can then hold that line, they marching in with the light of our fires and we marching out. I am very strongly of opinion that this plan would succeed, from the investigations I have made, and I trust the lieutenant-general has confidence enough in my means of obtaining information that I am not deceived as to the facts. As the corps would not be expected to advance one step after they get their place, and as it is only about ten miles directly from Petersburg to the left of our line here, they might make the march in the early night, so as to let us out by 2 o'clock in the morning, which would be sufficiently early. I have examined carefully the proposition of the lieutenant-general as to taking up a line to hold here with a single corps, and I find it very difficult, in view of the possible return of Early, to find a tenable line that would have any advantage over our line at Deep Bottom and Dutch Gap.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS AT FRONT,
October 2, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

General Birney desires me to say the enemy are moving in strong force between him and the Darbytown road.

R. V. W. HOWARD,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864—12.35 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

The attack of the enemy on my skirmish line has been repulsed. The prisoners are from Pickett's division and left the Bluff last night. They represent that a large force is advancing down the New Market road. Forces from Beauregard, Ewell, and under General Ewell.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 2, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

Dispatch received. If the enemy run your flank, refuse your right down toward the New Market road, keeping Kautz well out on their flank and so move as they move, shortening the line between the New Market and Kingsland roads if it becomes necessary.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, October 2, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

There are no rebel troops passing to the right. They were only strengthening the picket-line on our right.

F. MARTIN,
Captain, &c.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 2, 1864.

First Lieut. William P. Shreve, commissary of musters, Tenth Army Corps, is announced as acting assistant adjutant-general of this corps. Capt. E. L. Ford will resume his duties as aide-de-camp.

By command of Major-General Birney:

E. L. FORD,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General FOSTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that you can relieve the Two hundred and third Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers from duty at Deep Bottom, if you so desire it, by sending a smaller regiment to that post in its stead.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. L. FORD,
Captain, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

Capt. E. L. FORD,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you that I have decided to organize the troops of this command, on the arrival of the One hundred and twenty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, into two brigades. The Seventh, Twenty-ninth, and Forty-fifth Regiments U. S. Colored Troops will constitute the First Brigade; the Eighth, Ninth, and One hundred and twenty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, the Second Brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. BIRNEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

Col. E. W. SMITH:

I send you another rebel flag captured by a corporal of the First Division. It was not sent forward before because sent to the rear by some mistake. Corpl. Thomas Murphy, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteers, took the flag.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—12 m. (Sent 2 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Yesterday, after my report, General Mott's division advanced on the left and developed the enemy's position, which was found to be a strong line of rifle-pits and batteries running in a southwesterly direction, evidently to cover the Boydton plank road and South Side Railroad. Finding I did not have the force to hold the position in case I secured it on the Boydton plank road, Mott was withdrawn and placed on the left and rear of the Ninth Corps, and the line occupied, extending our former line from Fort Wadsworth, on the Weldon railroad, to the Pegram house, a distance of about two and a half miles. The enemy offered no opposition to these movements, except keeping our skirmish line actively engaged advancing and retiring, and opening with artillery on such parts of our lines as were exposed. The casualties were small, though several officers were wounded on the skirmish line. General Ayres, on Warren's right, advanced and took a small redoubt at the W. A. Davis house without great resistance, this work being part of the line previously taken from the enemy and in advance of the line subsequently held by them. It being not well placed for our purposes it was subsequently abandoned by Ayres when the final rectification of our line was made. We now hold securely to the Pegram house, with our left refused and the cavalry to the rear on the Vaughan and Ducking [Duncan] roads. The left is a little over a mile from the Boydton plank road, and believed to be not over two miles from the South Side Railroad. Generals Parke and Warren are busily occupied intrenching

in this position, and rendering it such that should the enemy turn the left they will have an available force to meet the movement. I send you two dispatches* from signal officers, showing the enemy are re-enforcing and moving to their right, whether with a view to attempt to dislodge us or simply to resist an advance cannot at present be told.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 3, 1864—12 m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I shall go to Washington to-morrow and see if I cannot devise means of getting promptly into the field the large number of recruits that I understand are now in depots all over the North. Will be gone three or four days. In my absence would like to have present lines held, if possible, but if necessity requires it, all or as much as is necessary west of the Weldon road may be abandoned. One corps, or as many troops as possible, from the Army of the James, will be held foot loose, to operate on the defensive at any place threatened. General Butler, the senior officer present, will command during my absence.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Copy to General Butler.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—3.30 p. m. (Sent 4 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I regret to learn that you are compelled to go to Washington. Am I to understand the forces north of the James are withdrawn or going to be? The holding a corps foot loose causes me to ask the question. Cannot Hancock be relieved up to the Jerusalem plank road, which would give me his two divisions as a reserve on the left and would make me quite secure?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—10 p. m. (Sent 10.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Nothing of importance has occurred to-day, excepting the driving in of Parke's pickets in front of the Pegram house, our extreme left, about 3 p. m.; the line was, however, immediately re-established. My lines on the left are now so secure against any attack that I propose to-morrow to return Mott's division to the Second Corps line. Redoubts are being constructed on the new line not only in front but on the flank and in rear. I do not think the enemy will attempt to disturb us now.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Stryker to Humphreys and Taylor to Fisher, p. 53.

OCTOBER 3, 1864.

[Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:]

GENERAL: Inclosed report of deserters from Thirty-fifth North Carolina was forwarded to you yesterday and returned again unknown to me until this moment.* A deserter from the same regiment has just been forwarded who came in on Saturday night. He reports the position of Johnson's division unchanged, lying from the Appomattox to the Burnside mine. He is certain that Hoke's division went across the Appomattox last Thursday, but knows nothing about their returning.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. BABCOCK.

OCTOBER 3, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Can locate Heth, Wilcox, Mahone, and Johnson. Cannot locate Hoke or Field with any certainty. Deserters from Thirty-fifth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, say that Hoke moved northward last Thursday and was recalled the next day. Anderson's brigade, of Field's division, is with Wilcox. Thomas' brigade, of Wilcox's division, is not here. Prisoners received so far represent all of Heth's division and McGowan's and Anderson's brigades.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserter from Sixty-fourth Georgia, Wright's brigade, Mahone's division, reports: That he came into the lines of the Third division, Ninth Army Corps, about daylight this morning. Brigade is lying near the Weldon railroad, east side, and is the extreme right of Mahone's division. Moved to this position last Friday, at which time all of Mahone's division moved "considerably" to the right. Thinks Colquitt's brigade, of Hoke's division, is lying in the trenches to the left of Mahone. Has friends in that brigade whom he saw last Friday. Wilcox's division on right of Mahone. Don't know anything of Field's division. Has not seen it since 1st of September. Is not well posted regarding position and movements. All prisoners of war received to date represent Heth's entire division and several regiments of Wilcox's division, besides Anderson's brigade, temporarily attached to Wilcox's. Prisoners from every cavalry brigade excepting Wickham's, Lomax's, Chambliss', Gary's, and Rosser's.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. BABCOCK.

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* See Babcock to Humphreys, 2d, 10 a. m., p. 37.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following has just been received from the signal station near Jerusalem plank road, dated 10 a. m.:

About 1,500 infantry with arms and knapsacks have in small parties left their works in vicinity of the Gregory Chimneys and point of woods to the left. Also they came from the works in edge of woods in rear of Gregory's Chimneys or to the right of the steeples and from some points farther to the right. They all appear to aim for some point in the road leading southward from Petersburg, but that road is not visible until it passes the lead-works. But few troops remain visible in the intrenchments and from the lead-works to beyond the Gregory Chimneys.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—10.30 [a. m.].

Major FISHER:

Just received the following report from Captain Thickstun:

Over 300 men left the enemy's front works between Norfolk railroad and plank road and passed toward large camp. Could not see whether they went farther to the left or not, as I could watch only one point at a time. A large number may have gone.

TAYLOR.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—5 p. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet this p. m. The following has been intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

No change this a. m. Two gun-boats above pontoon. Along the line all men have no arms; will come immediately for them to headquarters.

B. F.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 3, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following message received from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

5.10 P. M.

At 4.45 p. m. about 1,600 infantry and a section of artillery came up the road running west from large fort (probably the Squirrel Level road) and marched southward on Weldon railroad. A dozen of mounted men followed the column of infantry, apparently bringing up the stragglers, of which there were about fifty. At 2 p. m. 150 infantry came from the direction of Petersburg and halted in the point of woods

at the lead-works and pitched camp, and the smoke of camp-fires that rose from the woods approximating on the right would indicate that other and larger camps were established about the same time. A body of infantry, about 1,500, has been standing and lounging on ground all this p. m. in the woods midway between the lead-works and the large fort west of the Weldon railroad. They appear to have formed from a camp partly visible farther in the woods. All quiet.

H. W. FULTON.

The officer at the Avery house reports that at 5.30 p. m. the enemy were moving in promiscuous order from camp in the woods in the rear of their line toward their front works; that it is the movement reported this a. m. reversed.

In selecting points for stations along the left to-day, I observed that the present line of the enemy runs in front of Doctor Duval's house, extending thence toward Boisseau's, but could not see it after it left the opening in which the Duval house is until it appeared in the opening of the Boisseau property, but concluded it was continuous.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—6.45 p. m. (Sent 7.20 p. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

The commanding general directs that you relieve the detachment of engineer troops in charge of the pontoon train of this army sent to City Point yesterday, and order them to move up to this place and report to Major Michler. You will assign troops to take charge of the train until the engineer troops here can resume it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *October 3, 1864—8.30 p. m.*
(Received 9 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Your dispatch just received, and I will send a detachment out immediately to take charge of the train referred to, which I understand to be near Old Court-House. I shall order the men there to move up as directed at once, but as you may not design that they should move before morning, I telegraph you so that should you not mean them to move to-night your reply may probably reach me in time to stop them.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

The engineer troops need not march until to-morrow morning. Major Michler said the pontoon train had gone to City Point; if it has not, it should go there.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

No change noticed in enemy's line since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following report from Major Walsh is forwarded:

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION THIRD PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,
October 3, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Colonel MORGAN,
Chief of Staff, Second Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that since 6 o'clock yesterday evening my pickets have been much annoyed by small parties of the enemy appearing in front and firing on the outposts. The largest party seen did not number over ten; at the same time small parties have been seen far inside of the outer pickets, and one of my camp guard was fired at from the thick woods at daylight this morning. All is perfectly quiet up to this.

Respectfully,

J. W. WALSH,
Major, Commanding Battalion Third Pennsylvania Cavalry.

C. H. MORGAN,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

I don't know that anything can be done with this.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—9.52 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general wishes to know what that sharp musketry firing, with some artillery firing, was this morning about 2 o'clock. General Ferrero reported it to be on his right.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—10.15 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

There must be some mistake. No firing was heard here, and the guard was specially instructed to give notice of any. The division commanders do not report any. The chief of artillery reports a few rounds fired from the mortars. The corps officer of the day, who slept in Fort Morton, says he heard no unusual firing.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—11.10 a. m. (Received 11.15 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

It is reported that some 100 men have this morning moved from the line in my front toward our left. The signal officer saw 300. Captain Harn, artillery officer, thinks about 600 moved. I have sent down on the line for reports of all movements observed.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—12 m.

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: I have just come from telescope on top of Avery house. The second line of the enemy's works is filled with troops. The small parties which left the front line about 9 o'clock went to the rear to the encampment, but from there they could not be seen to pass. It has been the habit heretofore to put in the front line at one hour before daylight all the convalescents, militia from the town, and relieve them at 9 a. m. This may be the case now. The movement was by squads and in full sight, which was unusual. The tents of the enemy are up in the second line. General Miles, on our right, has been watching on his lines, but says he observes no changes.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864. (Received 5.40 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

Major Walsh, commanding the battalion Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, says his pickets at the junction of stage and City Point roads were fired on again at 1 p. m. Colonel Collis says this point is on the extreme left of Major Walsh's line, and is on the road mostly used by the enemy's scouts, and thinks it should be guarded from City Point.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—6.50 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The junction of the stage road and City Point road is about one mile and a half from Prince George Court-House and at least four miles from Old Court-House. There is no cavalry at City Point to send there. A detachment of Major Walsh's cavalry at that junction and one toward Mount Sinai Church would watch the main avenues of approach, which is all that can be done in that direction.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864.

It was ascertained by inspection this morning that a considerable part of the First and Second Divisions were not under arms at daylight. A situation where this precaution is more imperatively called for can hardly be imagined. Division commanders will have a staff officer on the line each morning to see that the troops are placed under arms at early dawn.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance occurred on this line during yesterday. It is reported that the 8-inch columbiad to our left and front of Fort Morton is again in position. A few rounds were fired by the mortar battery and also from Fort Davis in reply to the enemy. No casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. John N. Craig, assistant adjutant-general, artillery headquarters, Army of the Potomac.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. JOHN GIBBON,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding understands that you have about 760 muskets in Fort Davis, under Colonel Smyth. The maximum garrison of that fort is 550 men. The general desires that you put at least 200 of the garrison in the second line in rear of Fort Sedgwick, placing them so as to give a flank fire on the ground between Fort Davis and Fort Sedgwick.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864.

Brigade commanders will keep their commands well in hand, vigilant to the utmost, and under arms at daylight.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—1.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

I hear considerable musketry firing and some artillery near here, apparently on Crawford's front. Do you know anything yet, and have you sent the brigade I spoke to you about?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—2 a. m.

General MEADE:

I believe the firing just heard was not in front of Crawford, but more to the right. It has ceased now, except slight picket-firing. Crawford's is as strong as any part of my line. I have not sent the brigade, and probably shall not be able to.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—11.20 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you send a brigade to General Crawford before night, to be used on the line between Fort Wadsworth and Fort Howard.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I will send Colonel Hofmann's brigade back as soon as I can get arrangements completed to do it.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—12.50 p. m. (Sent 1.25 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

In consequence of the information received from signal officers of the movements of enemy's troops, the order to send a brigade to Crawford is suspended.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—I did not know until just now you had returned to your headquarters on railroad, hence my telegram to General Crawford.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—2 p. m. (Received 3 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I am at the place where our line crosses the Squirrel Level road and have been on the line all day; not at my old headquarters. Dispatches to General Parke's headquarters are near to me.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—11.40 p. m. (Received 12.25 a. m. 4th.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The officer of pickets of Second Division reports as follows:

The men on the line report the movement of a column of infantry (judged to be a brigade) and three pieces of artillery toward our right. There has been considerable noise and cheering on the enemy's line this evening.

Above was forwarded from General Ayres' headquarters at 10 p. m.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: As soon as General Bartlett's brigade is relieved by General Parke I wish it placed on the right of General Gregory's brigade, along the slashing cut through. They need not occupy a continuous line, which would put some of them in hollows, but only the ridge portions of the line, leaving intervals unoccupied. This, with the slashing, will be secure enough. I shall be found on the Squirrel Level road at General Ayres' position.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., October 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Department of War, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to recommend for promotion Col. E. M. Gregory, Ninety-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, and Col. James Gwyn, One hundred and eighteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanding respectively the Second and Third Brigades of this division, for gallant conduct displayed by them the 30th of September ultimo. The bravery and valor evinced by them and their commands in the operations of that day have not been excelled in any action during the war, and I respectfully request that if the commission of brigadier-general cannot

be awarded them, that at least the brevet of that rank may be conferred as an honorable notice of meritorious service, and that deeds of bravery and faithful service may be encouraged.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., October 3, 1864.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. W. S. TILTON,
Commanding Twenty-second Massachusetts Volunteers:

GENERAL: As your regiment leaves the army on the 5th instant by reason of expiration of term of service, I desire to express to you, your officers, and men, my satisfaction at the manner you have conducted yourselves since I have commanded the division in every circumstance of trial and danger. The valuable and efficient service you have rendered your country during the past three years of its eventful history is deserving of its gratitude and praise. You leave the army with an enviable record and with the regrets of your comrades at parting with you.

Sincerely, yours,

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—7 p. m.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

The major-general commanding directs that you send Colonel Hofmann's brigade at daybreak to-morrow morning to report here. Please acknowledge receipt.

Respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864.

Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your order directing Colonel Hofmann's brigade to leave me at daybreak to-morrow morning. In the meantime I had sent it, pursuant to verbal instructions from General Warren. It left about dark.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864. (Received 10.15 a. m.)

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The signal officer reports that a force of enemy's infantry, about 2,000 strong, with one gun, one wagon, and six ambulances; passed to our left this morning on plank road; hour, 8.15 a. m. General Warren has gone to the front. The Fiftieth New York Engineers arrived last night and moved off this morning on General Bragg's line to commence a line of defenses in that direction. There is nothing new from the front.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—11.20 a. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding on the Weldon Railroad:

Major-General Warren is directed to send you a brigade before night to strengthen the line on the right of Fort Wadsworth. Upon its arrival you will let General Ferrero close in on his right and strengthen his line, and put the brigade General Warren sends in the rifle-pits on the right of Fort Wadsworth, or if you can arrange it more advantageously by putting the brigade in reserve, so as to support the line promptly between Fort Davis and Fort Wadsworth, do so.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864. (Sent 12 m.)

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Division, Weldon Railroad:

Let me know what disposition you propose to make of the brigade General Warren will send you before posting it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
Signal Station, October 3, 1864—1.05 p. m.

[Major-General HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: Your dispatch received. When Ferrero moves to the right I will move the One hundred and eighty-fifth New York into the intrenchments he vacates. Colonel Sergeant, with the Two hundred and tenth Pennsylvania, will close on the left of the One hundred and eighty-fifth, and the brigade sent by General Warren will not only furnish ample troops between the left of the Two hundred and tenth and Fort Wadsworth but will give a small reserve.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Third Division.

Does this meet your approval?

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—1?.50 p. m. (Sent 2 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Division:

The order to send you a brigade is suspended.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864.

Colonel SERGEANT,
Commanding 210th Pennsylvania Volunteers:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you remain in your present camp to-night, and move out at 5.30 a. m. to-morrow to join General Ayres on the Squirrel Level road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy for commanding officer Third Division.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

GENERAL: I have received orders to send a brigade back to the right of Fort Wadsworth, and I must ask you to replace General Griffin's left brigade at once so that I can do it.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

P. S.—As soon as you can spare me some of my axes back I should like to have them.

G. K. W.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: I have just received your dispatch of 12.30 p. m., and will have the brigade of General Griffin relieved at once. I will return you your axes as soon as possible.

Respectfully, yours,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 245. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864.

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II. The Two hundred and tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Col. William Sergeant commanding, is assigned to the Second Division, and

will report to Brigadier-General Ayres, commanding. Colonel Sergeant will hold himself in readiness to join his division this evening as soon as relieved by Colonel Hofmann's brigade.

III. The One hundred and eighty-fifth Regiment New York Volunteers, Colonel Jenney commanding, is assigned to the First Division, and will report to Brigadier-General Griffin, commanding.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

What is the position of your corps and the condition of the intrenchments you are making? Can the commanding general withdraw the division of the Second Corps and return it to its corps without impairing the security of your position? General Meade would like to hear from you in reply before going to City Point. He will start as soon as a car can take him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—5.50 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The two divisions of my corps now occupy the line from Warren's left down to a point west of Peebles'. We, to-day, relieved one brigade of General Griffin's, Fifth Corps, so that we have now one brigade on the right of the Pegram house. From the Peebles to the Clements house I have two brigades of Mott's and one in reserve. The rifle-pit is completed, but slashing is not. The redoubt is not complete. We have 600 men at work day and night. I would not feel secure after Mott's division is withdrawn. I would respectfully suggest that a redoubt be constructed at or near the Clements house.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 3, 1864—8 p. m. (Sent 8.15 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general desires you to have the intrenchments, slashing, &c., pushed forward as rapidly as possible, working all the men you can. The redoubt at Clements' house will be put up and one in the rear to close the position. Major Michler is instructed to employ all the engineer officers and troops upon the work.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Received your dispatch of 8 p. m. I will have the work upon the intrenchments pushed as rapidly as possible. Reports of signal officer received. I have just received a report from our scouts that they saw considerable commotion in enemy's lines. I think all these reports go to show that the enemy is adjusting his force to meet the new condition of things.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 3, 1864.

Capt. C. J. MILLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Scouts sent out by General Hartranft went out nearly one mile to the west and found nothing.

Respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 3, 1864—9 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have advanced my line to the position held yesterday before the attack in the afternoon. The enemy have a strong position beyond and at the Cummings house. The position now held by the enemy covers the crossing of the Rowanty, and also the cross-road to Armstrong's, on the telegraph road. The loss in Davies' brigade yesterday afternoon was about 90; over 50 missing.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
No. 100. } *October 3, 1864.*

1. Capt. A. H. Bibber, First Maine Cavalry, is hereby announced as acting assistant adjutant-general of this division. He will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

2. Maj. B. F. Tucker, First Maine Cavalry, is hereby assigned to duty as commander of Dismounted Camp, and will relieve Capt. A. H. Bibber, First Maine.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

H. C. WEIR,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, October 3, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have directed Adjutant-General Thomas to bring up 5,000 negro troops from Kentucky, who are said to be superior to any others that he has organized in the South, and to take them to your command. He leaves Washington for that purpose to-day, and has orders to hasten them forward with all dispatch.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Near Junction of Varina and New Market Roads,
October 3, 1864—7.45 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Dispatch relative to the negro troops received. I told you they would do well in my department. My colored troops under General Paine, 2,500 strong, carried intrenchments at the point of the bayonet that in a former movement across the river stopped double their number. It was most gallantly done, with most severe loss. Their praises are in the mouth of every officer in this army. Treated fairly and disciplined, they have fought most heroically. I have received a letter from Captain Smith, of the Navy, proposing to Ould an exchange of naval prisoners "independently of our commissioner." There have been many negroes captured from the Navy, who are thus abandoned to their fate. Is it not possible for the Government to have a policy? If Sherman exchanges at Atlanta, if Foster at Charleston, if Canby at New Orleans, and Rosecrans in Missouri, then I do not see why we should not exchange here. Our soldiers will not be too well pleased to hear that sailors can and soldiers cannot be exchanged.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 3, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

All quiet during the night. An attempt was made on Kautz's and Birney's pickets, on the Darbytown and New Market roads, last evening, which was easily repulsed, and by Birney with the capture of seventeen prisoners. Lieutenant Michie is at work on the new line with 1,000 colored troops. Will you telegraph to the Secretary of War for a brevet majority for Michie in his corps? I wish him as my chief engineer. If gallant, unwearied, and most meritorious services are ever deserving they are in his case. Also, an order that he be put on duty in his brevet rank. I have set Ludlow's extra men at Dutch Gap at work on the redoubt on Signal Hill near him. Four regiments of Pickett's division are over here from the Bermuda line between Appomattox and James, leaving about 2,500 men there. I believe I could break through on the left with 3.000 negroes. Can we not have the other corps here?

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 2* [*3*], *1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Deep Bottom:

Your dispatch received. Send me a list of all the promotions by brevet and otherwise that you would like made from your command, stating the particular services for which brevets are asked, and I will take pleasure in recommending them. General Sherman is preparing such a list from his army and General Meade has already sent one from his. In the matter of breaking the enemy's lines as suggested by you, I think it practicable, but think that will keep. To bring any troops from the left, a good long line now held must be abandoned.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 3, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Deep Bottom:

If all remains quiet, I shall go to Washington to-morrow. I send you copy of dispatch to General Meade, which explains what I want done.* As much of present foothold north of the James as can be held I want held. Please telegraph me the situation of affairs daily. I wrote a letter to General Lee, in reply to one from him, which has not yet been answered. Should this or any communication come from inside the rebel lines, directed to me, in my absence, direct it to be received and sent to you. You will be at liberty to open any such communication, and to act if immediate action is required. I would prefer, however, my absence should not be known across the lines.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Junction of New Market and Varina Roads,
October 3, 1864—1.05 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Dispatch received. Will send forward a list of deserving officers. We will hold where we are. Will keep you advised daily and oftener if anything happens of interest.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 3, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Deep Bottom:

A dispatch is just received from Sheridan up to the 1st instant. The enemy have entirely left his front and come to Charlottesville and Gordonsville. He cannot reach them, so that we may now confidently expect the return here of at least Kershaw's division and Rosser's cavalry. It will require very close watching to prevent being surprised by the re-enforcement. I will have 40,000 re-enforcements here in ten days.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Grant to Meade, 12 m., p. 51.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 3, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Dispatch relating to Sheridan received. Will watch with the utmost vigilance. Can we not have the Nineteenth Corps? All quiet to-night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 3, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Deep Bottom:

The Nineteenth will come here.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
New Market Road, October 3, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the James:

COLONEL: I have the honor to recommend for promotion by brevet rank as brigadier-generals the following officers. I make this recommendation as a reward for their gallantry and efficient services, during the movements of this corps since I have had the honor to command it. I must also ask that they be assigned to the command of brigades in the corps by their brevet rank: N. Martin Curtis, colonel One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers; Alvin C. Voris, colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers; F. A. Osborn, colonel Twenty-fourth Massachusetts; also Richard H. Jackson, lieutenant-colonel and assistant inspector-general, chief of artillery, commanding the Artillery Brigade of the corps. Lieutenant-Colonel Jackson is also a captain in First U. S. Artillery.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 3, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you relieve the First Maryland Cavalry from duty with the Tenth Army Corps, and direct the commanding officer to report for orders to Brigadier-General Kautz, commanding Cavalry Division.

Respectfully,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 142. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., October 3, 1864.*

1. The One hundred and twenty-seventh Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, having reported for duty, is hereby assigned to the First Brigade, Third Division. The commanding officer will report to Brig. Gen. William Birney, commanding.

By command of Major-General Birney:

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieut., Commissary of Musters and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL BRIGADE, ARMY OF THE JAMES, DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, *October 3, 1864.*

COMMANDING OFFICER BATTERY PARSONS:

SIR: Deserters who came in this morning having reported that the enemy have already dismounted one gun in the Howlett battery, and are about moving others for the purpose of taking them further up the river, the colonel commanding directs me to instruct you to watch their movements closely, and if possible prevent the removal of the guns.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 24. } HEADQUARTERS SEPARATE BRIGADE, *Fort Pocahontas, Va., October 3, 1864.*

In compliance with the orders of the major-general commanding the department, dated October 1, 1864, directing me to turn over my command to my most experienced officer, I hereby assign Lieut. Col. J. N. Patterson, Second Regiment New Hampshire Volunteers, to the command of this Separate Brigade.

GILMAN MARSTON,
Brigadier-General.

[OCTOBER 4, 1864.—For Grant to Halleck and Halleck to Meigs, in relation to movement of Sixth and Nineteenth Army Corps to City Point, see Vol. XLIII, Part II.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *October 4, 1864.*

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

I have nothing of importance to communicate to the lieutenant-general commanding. Deserters and refugees in this morning, together with reports of signal officers, would indicate no change in the enemy's position in my front, and no movement on their part up to 8 p. m. last evening. One deserter from Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, stated his brigade had returned day before yesterday from Chaffin's farm. I do not see where Lee can get re-enforcements to attack General Butler.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *October 4, 1864.* (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I have changed my mind about going to Washington to-day; will put it off for several days.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Same to General Butler.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 4, 1864—11 a. m. (Sent 11.20 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Every part of my line is reported quiet, and no indications of movements beyond the accompanying dispatch from signal officers.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

8.30 A. M.

The body of infantry reported last evening as standing in the edge of woods midway between large fort west of the Weldon railroad and the lead-works is not visible this morning, and no indications of their being encamped in the woods. Most of the camps in vicinity of large fort are broken up and but little stir at that point.

The enemy has thrown up an additional earth-work in front of the crater made by the mine.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 4, 1864.*
(Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I find that General Benham has got little or no work done yet on the line of fortifications he was directed to build. I have directed less elaborate works than he contemplated to be speedily thrown up. Until they are done this place is in danger of a cavalry raid, particularly if the enemy's cavalry returns here before we get ours back. I would like to have daily scouting parties sent to the southeast to see that no movement is being made.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserter from Mahone's division (Harris' brigade, Sixteenth Mississippi Regiment) came into General Ferrero's lines about 9 p. m. yesterday. No change in the position of Mahone's division. Informant is unintelligent and can give no information of importance. Information from Colonel Sharpe to the effect that Hoke's and Field's divisions are at Chaffin's farm, with a regiment from each brigade of Pickett's division. Whole number of prisoners of war received during present operations has been 498 officers and men. Prisoners taken by General Butler have been from Clingman's brigade, of Hoke's division; Fulton's brigade, of Johnson's division; Gregg's and Benning's brigades, of Field's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 4, 1864. (Sent 2.30 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
Deputy Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

The commanding general wishes to know whether General Butler has sent in any prisoners or deserters from Heth's division or other part of Hill's corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *October 4, 1864—5.10 p. m.*

General HUMPHREYS:

General Butler has sent in no prisoners or deserters from any division of A. P. Hill's corps. The prisoners he has sent in are from Law, Gregg, and Benning, of Field's division; Clingman, Martin, and Colquitt, of Heth's division, and Fulton's (Tennessee) brigade, which was detached from Johnson's division and lying on north side of James before present operations. Besides these there are four unbrigaded battalions represented. I have found nothing to indicate that any part of Hill's corps was on the north side of the James.

GEO. H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

CITY POINT, *October 4, 1864.*

Lieutenant DAVENPORT,
General Butler's Staff:

We can locate Heth, Wilcox, Mahone, and Johnson. Anderson's brigade, of Field's division, is with Wilcox, and Thomas' brigade, of Wilcox's, is not on our front. General Shepley sends word that refugees from Weldon state that two brigades of Pickett's division passed

through Weldon to Georgia last Wednesday, and that the rebels are building railroad from Stony Creek to Danville railroad. Do you account for all of Pickett?

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 4, 1864. (Received 10.40 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

I have in the front here Field's and Hoke's divisions, Bushrod Johnson's old brigade, City Battalion, and all the local defense troops, also one regiment from each of Pickett's brigades. Thomas is on south side of James, where he has always been. Scales was here, but returned day before yesterday. I think Pickett's brigades are all in our front between Appomattox and James. Shall go to old headquarters in the morning and find out by personal examination of men there not sent here.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: There have been no movements seen this p. m. excepting about 500 men joined each other in small squads in the vicinity of the Weldon railroad, south-southwest from the lead-works, and moved toward our left at 4.30 p. m. North of the Appomattox forty-five wagons were seen coming toward Petersburg. I have one station near the Pegram house overlooking the enemy's lines in the vicinity of the Boisseau property. This is in charge of the Ninth Corps officer; one is being put up along General Ayres' front. Have not yet located one on the left and rear.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Holman reports all quiet this p. m. He intercepted the following message:

Colonel B[RENT].

Report of observation in front of Steuart's brigade, as follows: Wagons were passing to and fro; one company of infantry drilling in rear of their lower breast-works; one steamer went up the James River with the dredging-machine in tow followed by a small steamer, and stopped at Dutch Gap.

J. B. AND A. C.

(Same to A. B.)

Jordan reports that the enemy are building a new fort to our right of town. Captain Thickstun reports the enemy at work to-day at point reported yesterday.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
October 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Volunteer Engineers:

The lieutenant-general commanding desires that citizens should not be allowed to come through your picket-line, as such permission would offer greater facilities for gaining information about City Point and for planning a cavalry raid on this place.

Very respectfully,

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 4, 1864. (Sent 2.29 p. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

The commanding general learns that you have had three regiments added to your force, and desires that you will press the construction of the redoubts on the inner line inclosing City Point to completion as rapidly as possible. The connecting rifle-pits can be thrown up at some other time. The object now is to prevent a cavalry dash, which the redoubts will do. The commanding general needs the services of all troops on the intrenchments at the front, and you will let him know as soon as your redoubts are in condition to enable you to dispense with the services of the three regiments referred to.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *October 4, 1864.*
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

The third regiment I have received reported last night and has been getting its shelters to-day; the other two, at Old Court-House, with the two brigades they relieved, varying from 1,200 to 1,600 men, besides having one-fourth or more on picket duty, were occupied last week in slashing the wood down for Major Michler and myself one or two days, as reported to me, 1,000 or more a day being called for by the major. I have had nearly all the laying out to do, not having the two engineer officers that Major Michler expected to send me on Thursday, and I have the trace complete north of the railroad and some of the profiles up, and expect to have all the old engineer troops and most of these new regiments on the redoubts to-morrow and continuously afterward, expecting soon to be able to see Major Michler to learn his line and

make my connection. Since writing the above I learn the lieutenant-general wishes to have the work arranged for in four days with three-foot parapets for redoubts and simple breast-works between, and I shall endeavor to have this done.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DETACHMENT FIFTIETH NEW YORK ENGINEERS,
Near Weldon Railroad, October 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

GENERAL: I am directed by General Meade to bring every available man of my command to the front, and to request that you will furnish a guard for the pontoon trains until the emergency is over. If it will suit you to guard them where they are, and you think they are safe there, I should prefer to let them remain in their present camps, as the corrals are all built there for the security of the animals. Major Ford will consult with you on the subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. SPAULDING,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,
Prince George Court-House, October 4, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Lieut. Col. C. H. MORGAN,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report all quiet along my line. No enemy seen except one or two scouts last evening. I would state that having been here since Friday morning, and having no relief for my pickets, the men are becoming worn out for want of sleep, and being all recruits are not to be relied upon. My horses have not been unsaddled, except while being groomed, since coming here. I have but one officer beside myself, which, together with the duty and responsibility, make it very fatiguing.

Very respectfully,

J. W. WALSH,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing new reported from my line at this hour. Three contrabands from Sussex came in this morning. They saw no force of the enemy while on the way. They came up the Norfolk railroad the latter part of the way.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 4, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Gregg is directed to send 200 cavalry to relieve Major Walsh. The commanding officer of the detachment will report to you. Major Walsh will return to headquarters upon being relieved.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that during the past twenty-four hours a few movements of small bodies of the enemy's troops toward their right were discovered. The largest body, of about 500 or 600, was seen in front of Fort Rice, but at too great a distance for our artillery to open on them. The line was unusually quiet yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to state that the firing in front of this division this evening did not proceed from any attack, and was between the pickets only.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 138. } *October 4, 1864.*

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4. The One hundred and eighty-fifth Regiment New York Volunteers, Colonel Jenney commanding, having reported in compliance with Special Orders, No. 245, from headquarters Fifth Corps, is assigned to the First Brigade, Colonel Sickel commanding.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

All is quiet along my lines. Picket-firing continuous at the northwest angle of our picket-line. I have details at work on the redoubts at Pegram's and Clements' house, and I have furnished Captain Harwood, U. S. Engineers, with details for work on the rear line.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Gregg is now here and desires to know if there are any changes in his orders. He wishes to establish a camp so that his regiments, not on duty, may unsaddle. His picket-line is established on the road leading to Hawks', in sight, and within carbine shot of the enemy's works, down the Squirrel Level road to its intersection with the Vaughan road at Wilkinson's, with vedettes in front of Squirrel Level road; pickets toward Dinwiddie and Reams' Station. The cavalry not on picket to be posted at J. Davis', the intersection of the Wyatt and Vaughan roads, where the ground is sufficiently open to make camps and unsaddle. J. Davis' is about one mile and a half from Poplar Spring Church. Please answer, so that he may establish his camp as soon as possible in order that he may relieve and unsaddle the horses not on duty.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 4, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch concerning General Gregg is received. The part respecting picket-line was not clear, and I have asked the telegraph operator to repeat it. The general disposition of his force, as proposed by General Gregg, is approved by the commanding general, and General Gregg will carry out his proposition.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Copy to General Gregg.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864. (Received 3.30 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS:

The firing was occasioned by the enemy making a dash on our pickets to take a house northwest from the Pegram house. Our men were driven back, but the line has been re-established. The artillery firing was mainly our own guns.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The affair of pickets is over. I shall burn the little white house to prevent further disturbance. The following is the report of the signal officer:

GENERAL: The firing has developed the enemy along their line in considerable larger force than there have heretofore appeared. Their tents along as far as can be seen are not struck and there appears no indications of their intending to move out of their works. They are standing under arms with artillery run out. Not more than one piece can be seen in any one place. It appears extended at intervals along their front. The excitement evidently originated exclusively with the pickets.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain and Signal Officer.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

P. S.—Signal station is on my west front south of Pegram's.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

I send a prisoner from Eleventh North Carolina, MacRae's brigade, captured this eve in the affair of skirmishers. He brings a Petersburg paper of the 3d, which states that General Dunovant, commanding Butler's old brigade, was killed; also Colonel Bookter and Stuart's old medical director, Doctor Fontaine; two colonels wounded.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864.

Col. SAMUEL HARRIMAN, *Commanding First Brigade:*

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you occupy the new line of works, which was commenced this afternoon, by a full line of battle. You will see that the troops are moved forward immediately if it has not already been done.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., FIRST DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 4, 1864—2 p. m.

Captain YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

Five scouts sent out from the Second Brigade, First Division, were fired upon by the enemy, killing one man (a sergeant) and taking three prisoners. One of the party returned. The enemy's line of pickets (the scouts report) are beyond the woods, in the clearing. This clearing, I presume, is to the right of the front, facing westward, say opposite the four guns on the left of Ninth Corps.

I am, yours, &c.,

J. F. HARTRANFT,
Corps Officer of the Day.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 4, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general directs that you send a detachment of 200 cavalry to relieve Major Walsh, commanding cavalry detachment, from provost-marshal-general's command, who is at Prince George Court-House, watching the Norfolk stage road and roads from Prince George Court-House. The commanding officer of the detachment will report to Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps, headquarters at Deserted House, back of Avery house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: In answer to your letter of this morning I have the honor to state that the following are the regiments, their strength, present for duty, and their present armament, of the four regiments of dismounted cavalry now with this army serving as infantry, viz: Second New York Mounted Rifles, Ninth Corps—present for duty, 16 officers, 239 enlisted men, armed with Springfield muskets, equipped as infantry; Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry, Ninth Corps—present for duty, 10 officers, 334 enlisted men, armed with Star carbines, equipped as infantry; Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry, Fifth Corps—present for duty, 21 officers, 632 enlisted men, armed with muskets; Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry, Ninth Corps—present for duty, 6 commissioned officers, 357 enlisted men, armed with Springfield muskets, equipped as infantry. It will be well for the ordnance officer of your division to make the necessary requisitions for the armament and equipment of these four regiments. No requisitions have been sent in by the regimental commanders. The regiments will be sent to the Dismounted Camp whenever you report that you are ready to receive them, or any of them. They are now holding positions in the line, and it is desirable that they should not be withdrawn until you are prepared to remount and equip them as cavalry.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Varina, October 4, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Telegram received.* All quiet in my lines. Have moved my headquarters near Varina. Have a good wharf at Varina to land horses. Should be pleased to have you ride up and visit us. Can show you a new rebel line which shows we were not a moment too soon. Ought we not to make that move before Early gets up?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See Grant to Meade and Butler, beginning—I have changed my mind, p. 69.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 4, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Varina:

I will be up to see you in the morning. The difficulty of holding more than we now have, I think, should keep us from further offensive operations until we get more men. We will have at least 30,000 additional veteran troops in the next ten days, besides all the new troops that may come.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 4, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I see the correspondent (H. J. W.) of the New York Times states that 2,000 negroes of Burnham's brigade charged into a ditch in front of one of the rebel works and not one of them returned.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

OLD HEADQUARTERS,
Near Point of Rocks, October 4, 1864—11.30 p. m.
(Received 12.55 p. m.)

Colonel KENSEL,
Chief of Staff:

Train of seven cars toward Petersburg with few troops on board.

SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Signal Station, October 4, 1864.

Captain SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The following message has just been received from Spring Hill signal station:

2.30 P. M.

Captain CLUM:

A train of ten cars with a few troops on board going toward Richmond. All quiet on enemy's lines. No working parties at work.

SIMONS,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. F. YOUNG,
Acting Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 4, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY,
Commanding, &c.:

I am about to move my headquarters to near the Frayser house, in rear of the Eighteenth Corps hospital. I leave the telegraph line

to connect with you here. As my headquarters will be outside of everybody's pickets, if I get gobbled you will have command. My staff have selected the position. I must be in that neighborhood, however.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 4, 1864.

During the temporary detail of Lieut. Col. R. H. Jackson, assistant inspector-general of this corps, as chief of artillery, commanding the Artillery Brigade, Lieut. Col. A. C. Warberg, First U. S. Colored Cavalry, is announced as acting assistant inspector-general, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Major-General Birney:

WM. P. SHREVE,
Lieutenant, Commissary of Musters and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST NEW YORK ENGINEERS,
October 4, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

GENERAL: Lieutenant Archer, just in from the left, reports having seen a number of men near the river in front of the house in front of the left battery, and that there has been unusual activity among the gun-boats and steamers in the river for an hour or so.

Your obedient servant,

ED. W. SERRELL,
Colonel Engineers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 14. } HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL BRIGADE, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Defenses of Bermuda Hundred, Va., October 4, 1864.

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II. In pursuance of instructions from headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Col. H. J. Brady, commanding Two hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, will proceed with his command to Varina, on the James River, and report to Lieutenant Michie, U. S. Engineers. He will take his camp equipage and knapsacks. The movement will commence at once. Quartermaster will furnish the necessary transportation.

By order of Col. J. H. Potter:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *October 5, 1864—10.30 p. m.*
(Received 8 a. m., 6th.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I will start to Washington in the morning, and will meet Admiral Porter there, and bring him down with me on Saturday.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch of 11 p. m. yesterday, in reference to General Benham's operations, states precisely the instructions previously given that officer, viz, to construct, first, redoubts covering the main approaches, then to slash between, and finally to connect the redoubts with infantry parapets. All of these works were to have the minimum profile. I have to-day ordered an assistant to report to him. Everything is quiet along the lines, and the works progressing favorably.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have directed Gregg to send a regiment of cavalry to be posted on the telegraph road in advance of Old Court-House to patrol to the front and watch for movements on the part of the enemy. I have one now doing the same duty at Prince George Court-House, a detachment on the Norfolk road, and a regiment on the plank road, so that we ought to receive timely notice. So soon as the works on the left are completed and the working parties returned to the ranks I will relieve Gregg and station him between the Jerusalem plank road and the James; this will be, I think, in a day or two.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 5, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General:

Special Orders, No. 89, dated September 8, 1864,* from these headquarters, relating to the expulsion of such citizens from within our lines as are inimical to our Government or refuse to take the oath of allegiance, you will now carry into execution without any further delay. Those who desire to go to Richmond you may send by boat to Aiken's Landing, and thence to Cox's Ferry, at which point they can pass into the rebel lines. All others you can turn loose outside of our picket-lines at any convenient point. You will permit all parties removing to take with them whatever personal property they may have.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. S. PARKER,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Military Secretary and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Ninth Florida, Finegan's brigade, came into the lines of the Third Division, Ninth Army Corps, at sun-

* See Part II, p. 745.

rise this a. m. They give very little information. The line occupied by Mahone's division remains unchanged. All five brigades are reported in our front, Weisiger's being in reserve of the division.

By telegraph from City Point this a. m.:

The force at Chaffin's farm last night, as follows: Field's and Hoke's divisions, the city battalions, and local defense troops, and one regiment from each of Pickett's brigades. Thomas' brigade, of Wilcox's division, near Chesterfield Station.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 5, 1864.

[General HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

At 5.30 p. m. about 150 men in small squads came from the direction of Petersburg and disappeared in the works at different points from the Gregory Chimneys to point of woods northwest from station. No change in camp or lines.

The station on the Ninth Corps front sees a portion of the Boydton plank road between Ritchie's and Robertson's and will be able to notice movements made upon it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864.

The following changes of troops will be made:

1. Major-General Hancock will relieve the troops of the Ninth Corps garrisoning Fort Alexander Hays and posted in the rifle-pits from Fort Davis to Fort Alexander Hays and the pickets from Fort Davis to a point midway between Fort Alexander Hays and Fort Howard.

2. Major-General Warren will relieve the troops of the Ninth Corps garrisoning Fort Howard and posted in the rifle-pits from Fort Wadsworth to Fort Howard and the picket-line to a point midway between Fort Howard and Fort Alexander Hays.

3. The pickets of the Ninth Corps between Fort Davis and Fort Wadsworth will be relieved at night by the Second and Fifth Corps.

4. The garrisons of Forts Alexander Hays and Howard will remain at those posts until regularly relieved. General Ferrero will at once withdraw his troops from the rifle-pits on the left of Fort Alexander Hays, leaving his pickets posted, and move to the vicinity of Poplar Spring Church and report to Major-General Parke. He will notify the commanders of Forts Davis, Alexander Hays, and Howard of his withdrawal.

5. Upon the receipt of this order Major-General Parke will send a brigade of Mott's division to relieve Ferrero's troops, holding the rifle-pits between Fort Davis and Fort Alexander Hays, and upon the arrival of General Ferrero's troops will relieve General Mott's division, of the Second Corps, and send it to report to Major-General Hancock.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864. (Sent 11.30 a. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, &c.:

General Gregg is ordered to post a regiment of cavalry on the telegraph road, about three miles out from Old Court-House, with instructions to the commander to scout daily to and beyond Cocke's Mill, Sycamore Church, and out the stage road, &c. He will put himself in communication with the commander at Old Court-House and give him early notice of any appearance of the enemy in that quarter.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have nothing new to report from the lines as yet. Three contrabands came in last night from Petersburg and report nothing new.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I have directed all Sixth Corps trains, except artillery, to City Point, where I presumed they were. The artillery trains I have directed to go to the plank road, from whence I have ordered up the Ninth Corps train; the Fifth is already up. I have also sent a regiment of cavalry on the Old Court-House road, which, with the one at Prince George Court-House and the one on the plank road, ought to keep guerrillas in order. I shall send you back Mott to-night, but you will have to hold up to Fort Alexander Hays and picket half way from there to Fort Davis.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864. (Received 2.50 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Do you desire Mott's division to remain at Fort Hays, as General Meade's telegram seems to indicate? If not, I would prefer Mott to relieve the garrison at Fort Davis, which I would use as a reserve between the plank road and the Norfolk road. There are no reserves, to speak of, on the whole line to the river now. Who is to occupy the line between Fort Hays and Fort Howard?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864. (Sent 3.08 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general wishes you to make such disposition of Mott's division as you consider best. A brigade of his division was ordered to relieve Ferrero's troops between Fort Davis and Fort Alexander Hays, because it was thought you had none at hand to relieve them, and Parke should have Ferrero's men as soon as possible. There will be no troops in the rifle-pits between Fort Alexander Hays and Fort Howard. Your picket-line and that of the Fifth Corps are expected to keep that part of the front.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864—7.50 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Major Falls, commanding cavalry at Prince George, says his pickets were fired at to-night along his whole line. He sent in a man he found on his line with a pass from General Patrick. I have sent him up for identification.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864—8.30 [p. m.].

General HUMPHREYS:

Has the regiment of cavalry gone to Old Court-House? Major Falls, commanding cavalry at Prince George, reports, at 8 p. m., the enemy is evidently trying to force his left and rear from the direction of Sycamore Church, aiming, he thinks, for the trains. He says, however, that he has held his own thus far, but that his command is much scattered on account of the great number of roads being picketed, fifty being the largest number he has together at one place.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864. (Sent 9.44 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The regiment left Gregg's camp on the Vaughan road about 4 o'clock this afternoon.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864.

In accordance with instructions from headquarters of the army, the following disposition of troops will be made to-night:

I. The Third Division, Brevet Major-General Mott commanding, will occupy the line from Fort Hays to and including Fort Sedgwick. Two brigades will occupy the line between Forts Davis and Hays, and garrison these forts. The connecting line of rifle-pits need only be manned by a thin line. All the reserve troops of these two brigades will be massed in rear of and near to Fort Hays. The remaining brigade of this division will furnish the garrison for Fort Sedgwick. The reserve of the brigade will be placed in rear of the fort, where it will be available as a prompt support in case of any attack in the direction of the plank road.

II. On being relieved by the Third Division, the Second Division, Major-General Gibbon commanding, will take up the line from Fort Sedgwick to and including Fort Morton, and will garrison Forts Rice, Meikel, and Morton, as they are at present held. The reserve troops of this division will be placed in rear of Fort Morton.

III. On being relieved by the Second Division, the First Division, Brigadier-General Miles commanding, will continue to hold the line from Fort Morton to the river, placing one reserve in rear of Forts Stedman and Haskell, and another at such points as General Miles may select, as a support to the line between the Hare house and the river.

IV. The Third Division will picket from the plank road to the left, to a point half-way between the plank road and Fort Howard, connecting with the Fifth Corps. The Second Division will picket from the plank road to a point immediately in front of Fort Morton, connecting with the First Division, which will continue the line to the river.

V. As soon as practicable after this new arrangement has been perfected, General Miles will finish the second line between Fort Stedman and the river, and other commanders will strengthen their lines wherever needed. The commanders will report the garrisons and names of commanders of the inclosed works as soon as the change is completed. Should General Mott's troops move too late to make the change to-night, it will be postponed until to-morrow night. General Mott will, however, relieve the Ninth Corps picket-line and will occupy Fort Hays and the rifle-pits between it and Fort Davis. The police of the intrenchments is represented to be very bad, and the attention of commanders is again directed to the matter.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
Jones' House, October 5, 1864—12 p. m.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM, *A. A. A. G., Second Army Corps:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I have relieved the garrison of Fort Davis and that I have the troops outside of Forts Sedgwick and Alexander Hays, the garrisons of which refuse to be relieved. The picket-line from Jerusalem plank road to half way between Fort Alexander Hays and Fort Howard is being relieved.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

General Gibbon will explain, and return this paper by bearer, why the garrison at Fort Sedgwick was not relieved as directed in orders of yesterday.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
October 6, 1864.

The garrison of Fort Sedgwick was relieved this morning about 2 o'clock. The present commander of the Third Division informed my staff officer that he had no difficulty in relieving the garrison, the commander simply being particular as to who and what was relieving him, which was in conformity with the instructions I gave.

Respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Respectfully referred to commanding officer Third Division for his information.

Please see indorsement of General Gibbon. His communication did not reach these headquarters until a late hour this morning and shortly before General Gibbon's morning report was received.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 5, 1864.

General Pierce will immediately relieve the troops of Colonel McAllister in breast-works near Clements' house and also his pickets. Colonel McAllister will call in his working parties, and as soon as his pickets are relieved will relieve the troops of General Ferrero between Forts Davis and Alexander Hays, reporting to Major-General Hancock.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

I have the honor to report that about 7.30 p. m. yesterday the enemy opened sharply with musketry on our picket-line. At the same time

commenced a heavy fire from their artillery. This was vigorously replied to by our batteries, and in about an hour all was again quiet. No casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. John N. Craig, assistant adjutant-general, artillery headquarters, Army of the Potomac.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864—9.30 p. m.

General G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you order the Twenty-first Regiment Pennsylvania Cavalry, serving in your camp as infantry, to proceed to-morrow to the Dismounted Camp for the cavalry near City Point for the purpose of being mounted. The regiment will be dropped from your returns as transferred to the Second Cavalry Division.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 247. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864.

I. General Griffin will extend his line to the right, so as to relieve General Ayres' left brigade, and will furnish all details necessary to finish the redoubt on the Squirrel Level road.

II. General Ayres will then extend his line to the right, so as to make the line continuous with the Vaughan road. He will leave the battery on the Squirrel Level road for General Griffin, and will relieve the pickets, about sixty in number, of General Bragg, which connects General Ayres' pickets with General Baxter's. General Ayres will furnish details necessary to complete the redoubt on the Vaughan road.

III. These changes are necessary to enable the major-general commanding to use General Crawford's division in constructing a rear line from General Parke's left to the Weldon railroad. They will be made as soon as practicable.

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By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864—8.10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A deserter came in this morning—Twenty-seventh North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, conscript; joined a few days since. Says that Lane's and Davis' brigades are here, all three being along the line of intrench-

ments; MacRae's brigade in the neighborhood. Will you please send me the organization of Hill's corp, or, rather, Lee's old army? I have Beauregard's and Early's.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

All quiet during the night and this a. m. In the affair yesterday afternoon we lost 1 officer and 18 men missing and 1 man wounded. I have details at work on the redoubts and slashing in front of the infantry lines.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY-SIXTH MASSACHUSETTS,
Pegram's House, October 5, 1864.

Capt. SAMUEL WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division, Ninth Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report as division officer of the day for this date: The picket-line is in advance of the line of works from 300 to 500 yards, and forms nearly a right angle at the Sanborn house, where the lines of First and Second Brigade meet. The First Brigade has 200 men on the line and the Second the same number. About 3 p. m. yesterday the line was attacked just to the left of the Sanborn house. The Second New York Rifles were posted in that part of the line and fled without firing a shot, so the brigade officers of the day report. The line on the right and left of that space fell back, firing, nearly to the works. I was in camp at the time, and went out and rallied the pickets, and, with the assistance of the Second Maryland Regiment, reoccupied the old line. Another attempt was made to drive us back, but it was easily repulsed. About 8 in the evening I fired the house in accordance with instructions. We now occupy the same line as yesterday, but strengthened near the house. The Thirty-sixth Massachusetts lost in the affair of yesterday, 1 man wounded and 4 prisoners, two of whom were attempting to fire the house. The Second New York lost 1 officer and 14 men missing, probably prisoners.

WM. F. DRAPER,
Lieut. Col. Thirty-sixth Massachusetts, Div. Officer of the Day.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 5, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Companies sent this morning to Reams' Station, and two miles farther south of the Halifax road, could discover no signs of a movement of the enemy's cavalry; but one vedette was seen, and he posted southwest of Reams' Station.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864—11.20 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you post a regiment on the telegraph road, about three miles outside of the Old Court-House, near where the road to Sycamore Church intersects it, and about a mile beyond the Birchett house, with instructions to scout constantly to and beyond Cocke's Mill, Sycamore Church, and out the stage road, so as to give the earliest information to the commanding officer at Old Court-House of the appearance in that vicinity of any cavalry force of the enemy. The commander of the regiment will put himself in communication with the commander at Old Court-House.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you picket from the left of General Parke's infantry pickets across the Jerusalem plank road and watch and patrol the main avenues of approach between the Jerusalem plank road and the James River. That part of your force not engaged in picketing and patrolling will be established on the plank road, where it will be available to meet any movement of the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 5, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry.

I send you dispatch* from General Hancock. The commanding general wishes that, in disposing your command as indicated in dispatch of this evening, you would direct your troops to move on roads outside of the lines of intrenchments.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES,
Commanding First Brigade, Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you at once cause all communication between your pickets and those of the enemy to be stopped. Officers on picket will not be allowed to converse and otherwise communicate with the enemy. The pickets will perform their duty as heretofore without seeking information by conversation.

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Hancock to Humphreys, 8.30 p. m., p. 83.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 5, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you send a regiment from your brigade to take post on the telegraph road, about three miles outside of the Old Court-House, near where the road to Sycamore Church intersects it, and about a mile beyond the Birchett house, with instructions to scout constantly to and beyond Cocke's Mill, Sycamore Church, and out on the stage road, so as to give the earliest information to the commanding officer at Old Court-House of the appearance in that vicinity of any cavalry force of the enemy. The commander of the regiment will put himself in communication with the commander at Old Court-House.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 121. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, October 5, 1864.*

Corpl. Thomas Murphy, Company K, One hundred and fifty eighth New York Volunteers, having been reported to the commanding general for distinguished gallantry in the attack of the enemy upon the works of our line near Chaffin's farm on the 30th of September, he having taken with his own hand a battle-flag from the enemy, was, in consideration of his good conduct, offered promotion, but declining it, is given in lieu thereof a furlough of twenty days, to date from such time as he may choose to take it. The paymaster is ordered to pay him up in full to that date, and Corporal Murphy is recommended to the Secretary of War to receive a medal for distinguished gallantry, and will receive a present of $25 from the commanding general to bear his expenses on his furlough.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 275. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, October 5, 1864.*

I. In future the First New York Volunteer Engineers will report directly to these headquarters.

II. Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr is hereby ordered to report to Brevet Major-General Weitzel, commanding Eighteenth Army Corps, for assignment.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 144. HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., October 5, 1864.*

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2. The One hundred and ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Col. J. C. Briscoe, is assigned to the First Brigade, First Division, and its

commanding officer will report. For the present this regiment will form the garrison at Deep Bottom, reporting to Colonel Rand, commandant of post. The commanding officer of First Division will see that it is equipped properly for the field in all respects and ready to join its command.

3. The troops assigned to First Brigade, Third Division, will form the Third Division and be divided into two brigades: First Brigade, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, One hundred and twenty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops; Second Brigade, Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, Twenty-ninth Connecticut Volunteers, Forty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops. The division will be under the command of Brigadier-General Birney, U. S. Volunteers, and the following assignments are made: Col. A. C. Voris, Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, for First Brigade; Col. F. A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, for Second Brigade. These colonels will at once report for duty to Brigadier-General Birney.

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By command of Major-General Birney:

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieut., 2d U. S. Sharpshooters, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. S. FOSTER,
Commanding Second Division, Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that you can order back the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers from Deep Bottom, Va., to its brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Lieutenant, Commissary of Musters and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

Please send a staff officer to these headquarters to fix accurately the point of junction between the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps. There will be change in my lines within twenty-four hours that requires this point to be fixed and known.

G. WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 5, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

Have you any colonels in your command who ought to be brevetted to command brigades for gallant services?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

My standard for brigadier-general is high. I would recommend from what I have seen of them Col. J. H. Potter, Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers; Col. J. Jourdan, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteers. But the following are highly spoken of, too: Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers; Col. A. F. Stevens, Thirteenth New Hampshire, and Colonel Duncan, of the colored troops.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 5, 1864—10.55 p. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

General Paine reports that the pickets on his left state the enemy to be crossing from the other side of the river. I have just sent a staff officer to examine into the matter.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 335. } *Washington, D. C., October 6, 1864.*

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62. Maj. Septimus Carncross, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, will report in person without delay to the commanding general Army of the Potomac for assignment to duty.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *October 6, 1864.*
(Received 10.20 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

General Grant has just started for Washington.

By order:

E. S. PARKER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Military Secretary.

(Same to Major-General Butler.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Three deserters from the Forty-eighth North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, Heth's division, came into the lines of the Ninth Army Corps last evening about 10 o'clock. They locate Cooke's brigade some-

where between the Squirrel Level road and the Boydton plank road, about a mile west of the Weldon railroad. From their statement they must have come into our lines on the Squirrel Level road. They think Cooke's brigade is on the extreme left of Heth's division, which is posted from right to left as follows: Archer, Kirkland, Davis, and Cooke. Have not any knowledge of the position of the right. Dunovant's cavalry brigade connects with Archer. On the left of their division Lane's brigade of Wilcox's division is posted. Think all of Wilcox's division is there, extending to the left beyond the lead-works. Scales' brigade of this division is in the vicinity of the lead-works. Do not know of any troops in reserve; think there are none.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 270. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *October 6, 1864.*

1. Leave of absence is granted to the following-named officers: Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. Mott, volunteer service, for ten days.

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9. Bvt. Brig. Gen. H. L. Brown, volunteer service, having, in compliance with the instructions of the War Department, reported at these headquarters, will report for further orders to the major-general commanding the Second Army Corps.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Carothers, or Caruthel, reports that at 8 a. m. 200 infantry passed to the left on line Weldon railroad, coming from works in vicinity large fort. All quiet and no other changes or movements observed. Sergeant Jordan reports all quiet. Captain Thickstun reports that an artillery camp near lead-works has disappeared. All quiet.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 6, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

If General Mott's division has rejoined you the commanding general desires that you will return to these headquarters to-day Colonel Collis' command, now at Fort Bross.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864—9.40 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

Certain changes in the disposition of troops were made last night, the details of which will be sent during the day. Two contrabands and one deserter received from Petersburg last night. They report no change.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 252. } *Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va.,*
October 6, 1864.

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4. Bvt. Brig. Gen. H. L. Brown, volunteer service, having reported at these headquarters in obedience to instructions from headquarters Army of the Potomac, will report for further instructions to Brig. Gen. N. A. Miles, commanding First Division.

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By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

An officer from these headquarters, who was on the line to-day, reports that about 3.30 flags of truce were flying from the enemy's line and from ours, two being in the vicinty of Fort Rice on the old line of works. The general does not object to a cessation of picket-firing or informal truce for temporary purposes, but objects to the display of flags as described, except by authority, and requests that you will give the necessary instructions to your officers to put an end to this irregularity. If the enemy's pickets and vedettes wish a cessation of the firing they can indicate it by ceasing to fire and not by resort to flags. If they continue to use them, the general does not wish the example imitated.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM WILSON,
Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to inform you that the command of the First Brigade devolves upon you, and that you assume the command at once.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

[General MOTT:]

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that the line to the left of Fort Alexander Hays will not be occupied, and that if the pickets in front are attacked you will have to support them from the reserve you have at that point, and that in case of a heavy attack the line there would be occupied by the pickets after they come in, and your reserves, until other troops are sent there at least.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report, in compliance with instructions from headquarters, Second Army Corps, that Fort Sedgwick is garrisoned by the Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, First Maine Heavy Artillery, Seventy-third New York Volunteers, and Seventeenth Maine Volunteers, numbering 62 commissioned officers and 884 enlisted men for duty, all under the command of Col. E. R. Biles, Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers. Fort Alexander Hays is garrisoned by the First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, numbering 230 men, and 70 men of the Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, under the command of Maj. N. Shatswell, First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery. Fort Davis is garrisoned by the Fifth, Seventh, and one company of the Eighth New Jersey Volunteers, numbering 575 men, under command of Col. Francis Price, jr., Seventh New Jersey Volunteers.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send a regiment from your command, of strength say 200 or 250, to the fort on the Norfolk railroad in rear of these headquarters, to relieve Colonel Collis and his command.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

CIRCULAR ORDERS.] HDQRS. THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS,
Jones' House, October 6, 1864.

In accordance with instructions from corps headquarters, the following disposition of troops will be made to-night: The First Brigade, General De Trobriand, will relieve the garrison in Fort Sedgwick; the balance of the brigade will be placed in the rear of the fort, where it

will be available in any attack in the direction of the plank road as a prompt support. The Third Brigade, Colonel McAllister, will relieve the garrison in Fort Davis and occupy one-half of the line between Forts Davis and Hays. The Second Brigade, General Pierce, will relieve the garrison in Fort Hays and one-half the line between Forts Hays and Davis. The connecting line and rifle-pits need only be manned by a thin line. All the reserve of these two brigades will be massed in rear of and near Fort Hays. The division will picket from the plank road to the left to a point halfway between the plank road and Fort Howard, connecting with the Fifth Corps. Colonel McAllister will furnish the picket immediately. Commanders will report the garrisons and names of commanders of inclosed works as soon as the change is complete. The police of the intrenchments is represented to be very bad, and the attention of the commanders is called to this matter.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Capt. J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division, Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders received from headquarters Third Division, Second Corps, I have the honor to report that I have relieved Colonel Collis at the fort on the Norfolk railroad, in rear of headquarters Second Corps, with the Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Capt. John R. Ross commanding, numbering 17 commissioned officers and 215 enlisted men for duty.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. PIERCE,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 6, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

Some days ago I telegraphed to General Warren, asking with what regiment he desired to have the Forty-fourth New York Volunteers consolidated. We have heard nothing in reply. Was the dispatch received? The instructions of the War Department upon the subject appear to contemplate that the order of consolidation be issued here.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Warren has assigned the remnant of the Forty-fourth New York Volunteers to the One hundred and fortieth and One hundred

and forty-sixth New York Volunteers, Ayres' division. This assignment just fills up two old regiments. The men are old acquaintances, and the arrangement is a harmonious one and in consonance with the wishes of Generals Ayres and Griffin. A copy of the order of assignment is on its way to your headquarters for the approval of the major-general commanding.

Respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 6, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

You can have eight days' leave to-morrow, to be extended by telegraph if possible.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 248. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

* * * * * * *

III. The detachment of the Forty-fourth Regiment New York Volunteers, now serving with the First Division, is transferred to the Second Division and will be consolidated with the One hundred and fortieth and One hundred and forty-sixth New York Volunteers, under the direction of Brigadier-General Ayres.

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By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report quiet on my lines during the last twenty-four hours. Three deserters belonging to the Forty-eighth North Carolina (Cooke's brigade), of Heth's division, came in last night. They will be forwarded this morning.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Three deserters were brought in this morning; belong to Forty-eighth North Carolina, Lieutenant-Colonel Hill commanding, Cooke's brigade. They say that the following brigades were in our front, and in the following order from their right to left: Archer, Walker, MacRae, Davis, Cooke, Lane, and Scales.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES,
Commanding First Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that so much of your brigade as may be necessary (not exceeding one-half) shall be disposed to cover the main avenues by which the enemy could approach our lines between the Jerusalem plank road and the James River. A thorough system of scouting will be adopted as the best plan of keeping off guerrillas. Special instructions have been sent the commanding officer of the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, now near Birchett's. The regiment of your brigade posted in that vicinity will be governed by the same instructions. The officers commanding regiments toward James River will place themselves in communication with the commanders of infantry in their rear and give notice of any important movements of the enemy discovered in their front. As soon as you shall have established your line please report the disposition of your picketing force to these headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 6, 1864—2.50 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

I understand there are six companies of heavy artillery belonging to an unfilled regiment of New Hampshire volunteers somewhere near Washington. As artillerists they must be nearly or quite useless. Can they not be sent to me, and I can put them in my skeleton New Hampshire regiments and teach them the first duty of the artillery soldier—the use of the musket—in a short time.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point:*

Signal officer reports, 6.30 a. m., train of cars going to Petersburg; owing to fog could not see the train. 8.25 a. m., train of thirteen cars heavily laden with troops going to Petersburg.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, October 6, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: Allow me to call your attention to the fact that Brevet Major-General Weitzel has only been assigned to duty by my order with his brevet rank. Will you ask the Secretary of War to assign

him to duty and command where he now is with his brevet rank, so that he can get aides-de-camp and staff. I would recommend for brevet Col. N. M. Curtis, One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers, First Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, and Col. F. A. Osborn, of the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, Third Brigade, First Division, Tenth Army Corps. Both these gentlemen are and have been long in command of brigades, and both distinguished themselves in the movement on the enemy's works near New Market. I would also recommend as brevet brigadiers three gentlemen commanding colored troops—Colonel Duncan, now in hospital, wounded, for gallant and meritorious service in leading a charge upon the enemy's works at Spring Hill; also Col. A. G. Draper for like gallant conduct at the head of his brigade on the 29th of September at the same point; Maj. B. C. Ludlow, of the additional staff, for gallant and meritorious conduct in maintaining for many days his position under fire at Dutch Gap and for meritorious conduct in leading his troops in the charge on Spring Hill, August 30, 1864. This last gentleman is entitled to great praise for silent and quiet endurance and the example he has set for the men, having done more than any other officer to inspirit the colored troops with steady coolness under fire. He has had his quarters at Dutch Gap twice shot to pieces, almost under him, by the enemy's shell. I would also recommend most earnestly and strenuously First Lieut. Peter S. Michie, U. S. Corps of Engineers, for two brevets. If there is an officer in the army who is worthy of it and who has earned it by unremitting and meritorious services it is Lieutenant Michie. I would also recommend Brig. Gen. George J. Stannard, First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, as brevet major-general, for the gallant and successful charge on Fort Harrison, one of the finest things of the war. General Stannard is at home, having lost an arm. I would also recommend Brigadier-General Kautz, commanding Cavalry Division of this army, as brevet major-general, for gallant and meritorious services in conducting the cavalry expedition and cutting the Weldon railroad on the 5th of May, 1864, and again cutting the Danville and Richmond road on the 16th of May; again for gallant service in the expedition under General Wilson, bringing in his own cavalry safe from the attack of the enemy; and, lastly, for his vigilance and successful movements in the late advance on the north side of the James. I would also recommend for brevet Col. G. V. Henry, of the Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding Third Brigade, First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, now commanding brigade, and Col. J. Jourdan, of the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteers, for gallant and meritorious service in the charge on Fort Harrison. All these gentlemen recommended for brevets are now holding the command for which their brevet rank is asked; all the promotions to date from the 29th of September, 1864.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
October 6, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY, *Commanding Tenth Corps:*

GENERAL: I send two refugees and four deserters. The refugees left Richmond since noon. The information they give of importance is

that a force, consisting of Law's, Benning's, and Gregg's brigades, passed Thorne's this evening, going north, toward the York River road, indicating a reconnaissance in my front. I send a note to General Butler about it, which please forward. I think it would be well to forward the refugees to General Butler at once.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

GENERAL: Deserters sent in by General Kautz report a movement, three brigades, toward the York River railroad, evidently with the intention of making a forced reconnaissance on our right. The major-general commanding directs that you be prepared and hold your commands to act as may become necessary.

Very respectfully,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To Generals Terry, Foster, and Birney.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 145. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., October 6, 1864.*

1. So much of Special Orders, No. 144, current series, from these headquarters, as assigns Col. F. A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, to command the Second Brigade, Third Division, is revoked.

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By command of Major-General Birney:

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieut., Second U. S. Sharpshooters, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 6, 1864.

Capt. P. A. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Div., Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lieut. Col. J. S. Littell, has arrived from Deep Bottom and reported. The regiment is now going into camp and will be held in reserve opposite the center of my line.

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. PENNYPACKER,
Colonel Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 6, 1864—12.10 a. m.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

Assign some officer to command of the First Brigade, First Division, other than Colonel Raulston.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have received your order relating to Lieutenant-Colonel Raulston. If this order is intended to reflect on that officer I wish to say that there is no better officer in this corps. He was a lieutenant-colonel only. I could, therefore, not recommend him to a brevet brigadier-general under your order. I have suspended the execution of your order until I again hear from you.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK:

General Butler has put me on duty according to my brevet rank. Does this entitle me to the pay and staff of a major-general without the orders being approved at Washington?

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

I referred that whole matter about my assignment to headquarters at City Point. Colonel Comstock says my assignment by you will unquestionably be approved, but that it requires the President's approval to enable me to draw pay and appoint my staff. Will you please, therefore, send it on for approval, so that I can make my appointments?*

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
Before Richmond, October 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding Army of the James:

GENERAL: In answer to your inquiries of this morning I have the honor to state that the Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops behaved excellently in the assault of September 29, but I could not and cannot select any officer in it for mention. They all did their whole duty well,

* See Butler to Grant, p. 97.

but so did every officer in the column, and so did every regiment concerned (the First and Thirty-seventh were not engaged September 29, being second line). If the list of officers forwarded were to be increased it would have to include every officer killed, wounded, or safe of Second Cavalry (except Captain Perrin), of Fourth, Sixth, Twenty-second, Fifth, Thirty-sixth, and Thirty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops. During the assault four companies of Thirty-sixth fell, by the casualties among the officers, into the command of sergeants, but Lieutenant-Colonel Pratt, commanding regiment, unfortunately did not particularly notice their conduct and management of their companies. Their names are: First Sergt. Jeremiah Gray, Company C; First Sergt. William Davis, Company E; First Sergt. Miles Sheppard, Company I; First Sergt. Samuel Gilchrist, Company K.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES BERMUDA HUNDRED,
October 6, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

COLONEL: Captain Riggs, Company H, Third New York, six light 12-pounders, Captain Lee, Sixteenth New York, four 3-inch rifles, are in reserve at this end of pontoon bridge. One section of Lee's battery is at Dutch Gap.

J. H. POTTER,
Colonel Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers, Comdg. Defenses.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 6, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General GRAHAM,
Commanding Army Gun-boats, Point of Rocks:

Major-General Birney has applied for you to take charge of one of his divisions. I should be glad to consent did I know how to spare you from charge of the army gun-boats. If you would be willing to keep a general oversight of them in connection with your command I should be happy to make the assignment, as you know that I have no one in whom I have more confidence either on land or afloat. Please answer by telegraph.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 6, 1864.*
(Received 8.30 p. m.)

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Train:

General Hunt directs me to telegraph you for two 8-inch siege mortars and ammunition. He wishes to have them put into position at Battery No. 20 to-night. New mortar batteries of the enemy have been dis-

covered, exceedingly annoying the batteries and garrison at Fort Sedgwick. If they will report to me I will put them in position. Please inform me from what company the detachment will be sent to work them.

A. F. BROOKER,
Major, &c.

WASHINGTON, *October 7, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Make such demonstrations on your left in the morning as to detain the enemy's forces there and prevent any concentration north of the James River.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 7, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Sent 10.40 a. m.)

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

I have nothing of importance to communicate to the lieutenant-general commanding. Deserters and refugees in this morning, together with reports of signal officers, would indicate no change in the enemy's position in my front and no movement on their part up to 8 p. m. last evening. One deserter from Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, stated his brigade had returned day before yesterday from Chaffin's farm. I do not see where Lee can get re-enforcements to attack General Butler.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 7, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatch* of 9 a. m. received. I don't know where Lee gets the forces to attack you. Deserters in this morning report no change of enemy in my front. One from Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, says Scales returned from Chaffin's farm day before yesterday. Have you any knowledge of any re-enforcements to Lee?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—11.05 a. m. (Received 12.05 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I have made out this attacking column to be Benning's, Law's, and Gregg's brigades of infantry, a battalion of artillery, and Lomax's cavalry. I hear of no re-enforcements to General Lee, nor have I heard of any other troops moved across the river. I am inclined to believe that there can hardly be a real attack so far as my information goes.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

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*See Butler to Grant, p. 107.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Four contrabands that left Petersburg last night state that the hospital and commissary departments are being moved to Danville by the South Side Railroad, and heavy guns are being buried. As to the latter no definite information is given. The greater bulk of Lee's army is in the vicinity of the South Side Railroad, and the lines south and east of the city are very thinly manned. A general impression prevails that it is absolutely necessary to hold the South Side Railroad, which if lost ends the performance. No recent movements.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Thirty-eighth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, of Wilcox's division, came into the lines of the Fifth Army Corps last evening. He left his brigade lying between the Weldon railroad and the Boydton plank road. It was on the left of the division, and its left rested on the railroad near the lead-works. Came into this position day before yesterday, on returning from Chaffin's farm. Scales' brigade was the only brigade that went to Chaffin's from Wilcox's division. McGowan's and Lane's brigades still on our right. Think there are no troops west of the Weldon railroad, excepting Heth's division and three brigades of Wilcox's division. Scales' brigade is extended in a long, thin line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The several signal stations along the lines report no changes or movements on the part of the enemy, excepting a section of artillery passed toward the enemy's right upon the Boydton plank road at 7.30 a. m., and a small camp near the Richmond pike disappeared since yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 271. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *October 7, 1864.*

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7. The battalion of the Eighth U. S. Infantry, now serving in the Ninth Army Corps, will report to the commander of the Fifth Army Corps for assignment to duty with the regular troops serving in that corps.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in my lines since last report, except the relief of Colonel Collis at Fort Bross by the Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Infantry, Captain Ross commanding. Five negroes came in from Petersburg last night. They bring no news. Saw no movement of troops yesterday up to 8 p. m.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Near Aiken's House, October 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I inspected the line of the Second Corps as per instructions. The right of the line rests on the Appomattox River, and the left at Fort Alexander Hays. The troops were disposed as follows:

First Division, Brigadier-General Miles commanding—Battery No. 4, garrison of 154 men; Battery No. 5, garrison of 150 men; Fort McGilvery, garrison of 300 men; Battery No. 9, garrison of 100 men; Fort Stedman, garrison of 300 men; Battery No. 11, garrison of 80 men; Battery No. 12, garrison of 40 men; Fort Haskell, garrison of 300 men; Battery No. 13, garrison of 20 men; Battery No. 14, garrison of 57 men; in line from Appomattox River to Battery No. 9, 325 men; in line from Battery No. 9 to Fort Stedman, 152 men; in line from Fort Stedman to Fort Haskell, 629 men; in line from Fort Haskell to Fort Morton, 600 men; picketing the river from Spring Hill Fort to Battery No. 5, 295 men. There is no picket-line in front of the works from the Appomattox River to near Fort Stedman, but during the night vedettes are thrown out. In front of Fort Stedman a picket of 50 men; a picket-line between Forts Haskell and Morton of 210 men; a guard at Cedar Level of 140 men; reserve force near Friend's house, 1,200 men. The men were close to the works, one-third of the number in the line with their accouterments on; those between Fort Stedman and the Appomattox, accouterments on at all times. The garrisons at the forts had their regular guards. The rest of the men were without accouterments. They are in line at 4 o'clock in the morning until after daylight, prepared in case of attack. They were building a second line between Battery No. 9 and Fort Stedman, which would soon be finished.

The Second Division, Brigadier-General Gibbon—Fort Morton, garrison of 305 men; Fort Meikel, garrison of 131 men; Fort Rice, garrison of 240 men; Battery No. 15, garrison of 20 men; in line between Forts Morton and Sedgwick, 1,300 men; picket between Forts Morton and Sedgwick, 600 men; reserve in rear of Fort Morton, 585 men. One-third of the men in line have their accouterments on at all times. They are all in the line from 4 o'clock in the morning till daylight, prepared in case of attack. The forts have only the regular garrison guards.

The Third Division, Brigadier-General Mott commanding—Fort Sedgwick, garrison of 875 men; Fort Davis, garrison of 575 men; Fort Alexander Hays, garrison of 300 men; in line between Fort Davis and Fort Hays, 1,000 men; on picket from Jerusalem plank road to half way between Fort Hays and Fort Howard, 500 men; near the Williams house, 325 men; Fort Bross, garrison of 250 men; in reserve by Chieves' house, 1,000 men; in reserve by Strong's house, 1,100 men. The men in this division were engaged in pitching their tents and cleaning camp. They were all without accouterments. The forts had the regular garrison guards. The picket-line runs in front of Fort Stedman, as near as I could judge at a distance of 200 feet, in front of Fort Sedgwick 300 feet, and between these points an average of 600 feet; it widens out from Fort Sedgwick to the left of the Second Corps line, the pickets being at least one-quarter of a mile in advance.

I remain, yours, very respectfully,

JAMES C. BIDDLE,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 531. } *October 7, 1864.*

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3. Bvt. Brig. Gen. H. L. Brown, volunteer service, having reported at these headquarters, in compliance with Special Orders, No. 252, current series, headquarters Second Army Corps, is hereby assigned, subject to the approval of the major-general commanding the corps, to the temporary command of the Fourth Brigade of this division, relieving in that command Lieut. Col. William Glenny, Sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, who will return to duty in his regiment.

By order of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM WILSON,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you relieve at 3 a. m. to-morrow, with troops of your brigade, the troops of the Consolidated Brigade in the line from Battery No. 9 to the left to connect with the Fourth Brigade—275 muskets properly officered. He considers that a regimental organization had better be sent. The garrisons of inclosed works will not be disturbed. He also directs that the garrison of Battery No. 4, 150 men, be kept up and considered the same

as the garrisons of the other inclosed works. No details are to be made from it, and it will be kept at work inclosing the battery, as directed in note of 3d instant.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following changes in the line of this division: The Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers (Second Brigade), numbering 17 commissioned officers and 215 men, Capt. John R. Ross commanding, relieved Colonel Collis and his command in the fort on the Norfolk railroad in rear of the headquarters Second Army Corps. Nothing further of note occurred since my last report.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Two deserters from Eighteenth North Carolina Regiment have just been received. They left the right of the rebel line about three miles and a half from Petersburg. One of them is named MacMillan; he has black whiskers, and is quite well posted as to the rebel positions. He says Heth's and Wilcox's divisions are on their right, and are throwing up works. These men were in the battle at Poplar Spring Church. These men will be sent to you at once.

Respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 7, 1864—11.45 p. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding desires a demonstration made to-morrow that will prevent the enemy from sending any additional forces to the north side of the James. He therefore directs that you send out reconnaissances in your front to-morrow morning at 7 o'clock and drive in the enemy's pickets, and follow it up with such other movements as will give the impression that we are about advancing in force. General Parke, commanding Ninth Corps, has received the same orders, and there should be concert of action between you.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Parke.)

CIRCULAR, No. 139.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

During the absence of the major-general commanding, on leave for eight days, the command of this corps will devolve upon Brigadier-General Crawford.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired along my line during the past twenty-four hours. Work on the redoubts is progressing satisfactorily; also the slashing along the line connecting them.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
War Department, Washington, D. C.:

At 6.45 this morning the enemy attacked and drove Kautz back, and are now advancing on our right toward the rear in strong force. They have just opened fire upon Fort Harrison.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copy to General Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
City Point:

I have ordered my dispatch to General Grant to be duplicated to you. Nothing has changed since that dispatch. I have thrown my right back, put Spring Hill, near New Market, in fighting order, and am waiting. Deserters report no new troops in my front, but a large portion withdrawn from Chaffin's for this demonstration on the right. The force moving I make out to be Law's, Benning's, and Gregg's brigades infantry, a battalion of artillery, and Lomax's brigade of cavalry. The shelling of Fort Harrison still goes on with vigor. If I can learn with a little more certainty about this movement on my right I shall take the offensive with two divisions of Birney's.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

I will direct the operator to take off at City Point any dispatch I may send to General Grant.

B. F. BUTLER.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
October 7, 1864—12 m. (Received 5 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Washington, D. C.:

Kautz's cavalry were driven in with some loss. Birney easily repulsed the enemy on his right. I am now waiting for a little further information when I propose to assume the offensive with two divisions of Birney. I think this is only an attempt to hold the Darbytown road as far down as possible.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—6 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

At 6.45 this morning the enemy, having moved Field's and Hoke's divisions from the left at Chaffin's farm round at our right at Darbytown road, attacked with spirit Kautz's cavalry in their intrenchments and drove him back with small loss of men, but with the loss of his artillery. The enemy suffered very considerable loss in this attack. The enemy then swept down the intrenchments toward Birney, who, having thrown back his right, waited their assault and repulsed it with very heavy loss on the part of the enemy. The enemy, in the meantime, advanced toward New Market, but were met by a force at the signal tower. At 3 p. m. I took the offensive, sending Birney with two divisions up the Darbytown road. The enemy has retreated as he advanced, and he now has reached and occupies the intrenchments which the enemy took from Kautz and were fortifying for themselves. Our loss has been small; not one-eighth of the enemy's. We have about 100 prisoners. Will telegraph again if anything of interest occurs.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 7, 1864—10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Washington, D. C.:

Birney has regained Kautz's old position and holds the enemy in the inner line of intrenchments around Richmond, extending from the Darbytown road to connect with Weitzel on the left near Fort Harrison. There has been no movement at Petersburg to-day. We have much the best of this day's work; 1,000, at the least, of the enemy killed and wounded, 100 prisoners, and a bloody repulse. General Gregg, commanding Field's division, is reported by a lady, who saw the body, as killed. No news by Richmond papers, save that they boast that Hood is at Marietta strongly intrenched.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864. (Received 8.20 a. m.)

General D. B. BIRNEY:

Be ready to send assistance to Kautz when he needs it.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—8.55 a. m. (Received 9.03 a. m.)

General D. B. BIRNEY:

Let your right fall back and be ready to meet the enemy, who are advancing.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864. (Received 9.12 a. m.)

General BIRNEY:

Take good care that the enemy do not get between your right and Deep Bottom.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—9.45 a. m. (Received 10.10 a. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

I am inclined to think that the enemy, if they are in earnest on the right, will make the attack pretty far down toward New Market, so as to turn us if possible. A brigade of observation pretty well down might be well. What has become of Kautz? You say routed; I hope not as bad as that.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—9.50 a. m. (Received 10.10 a. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

General Weitzel just says he sees no movement of troops in his front.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Refugee reports Law's, Benning's, and Gregg's brigades as the force of infantry, and a battalion of artillery with Lomax's cavalry as the force of artillery and cavalry. If this be so, then it is but a demon-

stration on the right, and it may be possible to push them. I think Weitzel can hold his left. I have ordered four pieces of artillery to join him near New Market.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Similar dispatch to General Weitzel.)

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

I have repulsed the attack of the enemy on my right flank with great slaughter. The troops seem to be Field's and Pickett's divisions. I send you a batch of prisoners. I am extending my right flank. The enemy seems to be intrenching on Darby road.

D. B. BIRNEY.

[Indorsement.]

Forwarded as per the order of Brigadier-General Rawlins.

B. F. BUTLER.

(Copy to General Grant.)

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Dispatch by hand of aide received. Field's division, to wit, Law's, Benning's, and Gregg's brigades, have always been here. There are four regiments of Pickett's division. They may be on the move to get to our right; if so, I think we may send two divisions after them and get between them and their base. What think you? I can hear of no new troops coming over here

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—12 m.

General BIRNEY:

I think we must not let them intrench on the Darbytown road. Please advance upon them in such force as you can spare, and see if we cannot get on their flank. I am at telegraph office to confer with you.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864—12.50 p. m. (Received 12.55 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The enemy are not falling back from the Darbytown road, and hold a very strong position vacated by Kautz. I will try them at once,

although I think they are preparing to assault me. Let General Weitzel relieve as much of General William Birney's line as possible. He is on my left.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

—

If you think they are preparing to assault you, wait a little, and let them come on.

B. F. B[UTLER].

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—1.05 p. m. (Received 1.10 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

I have ordered Weitzel to relieve as much of William Birney as possible. The prisoners say Hoke's and Field's divisions are in your front. That would leave only Pickett's regiments and local defense in front of Weitzel. If you can coax the enemy to attack you, do so. A rebel captain says that they had no troops other than infantry beyond Darbytown road.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864.

General BIRNEY:

Colonel Rand, commanding at Deep Bottom, says his vedettes on the New Market road report the enemy moving down to the right of Spring Hill, and that no troops of ours are there save fifty or sixty cavalry. Will you look to this?

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864—2.40 p. m. (Received 2.45 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The following just reported:

Major-General BIRNEY:

The Eighteenth Corps pickets report the enemy massing in the woods in front of Fort Harrison.

WM. BIRNEY,
Brigadier-General.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Weitzel.)

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—2.50 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

I think General W. Birney's information would show that the enemy means to move on Weitzel or the fort. If so, you will have a feint on you. All this will take place about 4 p. m. Keep your reserve well to your left.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—3.40 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

Push them smartly. Weitzel will hold on.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864.

Major-General BIRNEY:

The following just received from signal officer:

SIGNAL TOWER—4.10 p. m.

Lieutenant Brodie reports that the rebel artillery has withdrawn from our right and is taking a road apparently to our left. The enemy are throwing an occasional shot on our front.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—7.50 p. m. (Received 8 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

I think you are quite right in your suggestion as to the possible attack on Fort Harrison to-morrow morning. I do not precisely understand the position of your troops. Please explain a little more at length.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

My corps is disposed as follows: Terry on right, holding Kautz's position of this morning, across the Darbytown road, with strong skirmish line; his brigades massed on Foster's right. Foster holds the right of my position this morning and General Birney the left, excepting that portion relieved by the Eighteenth Army Corps.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—9.30 p. m. (Received 9.35 p. m.)

Major-General BIRNEY:

I have ordered General Kautz to move up from near Spring Hill, where he now is, and, reporting to Terry for this purpose, to take position to strengthen his right and flanks at daybreak. That may enable you to look a little more to your left. You can also order up your regiment from Deep Bottom.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General BIRNEY:

I should have said signal tower instead of Deep Bottom. Kautz is ordered up. You can dispose of him as may be of most use.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864—6.45 a. m.

General TERRY:

General Kautz sends the following, dated 6 a. m.:

The enemy is driving in my pickets on the Darby and Charles City roads. Cannot make out their force.

The major-general commanding directs you will be well on your guard.

Respectfully, yours,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 3D DIV., 10TH A. C.,
In the Field, October 7, 1864.

In accordance with orders from headquarters Third Division, Tenth Army Corps, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Second Brigade, Third Division, Tenth Army Corps.

The following-named will constitute the staff of the brigade commander and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: First Lieut. Ira H. Evans, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, acting assistant adjutant-general; First Lieut. E. B. Burrows, Eighth U.S. Colored Troops, acting assistant quartermaster; First Lieut. Henry G. Marshall, Twenty-ninth Connecticut Colored Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp; First Lieut. Jacob Ormerod, Forty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, acting aide-de-camp. The division commissary will for the present, and by direction of Brig. Gen. William Birney, perform the duties of brigade commissary.

SAML. C. ARMSTRONG,
Lieut. Col. Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General WEITZEL:

Do you see anything on the left that looks like a demonstration, or is it only mortar firing? If they are massing troops at all there this move on the right may be the feint, but I am inclined to think not.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

General BUTLER:

I see no movement of the troops in my front.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864. (Received 9 a. m.)

General WEITZEL:

Just received dispatch from General Birney stating that Kautz has been routed and enemy are moving to his (Birney's) rear and right. Be ready.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—9.55 a. m.

Major-General WEITZEL:

Have as strong a reserve force as you can spare ready to move to the aid of Birney if the attack develops itself on our right.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

Your dispatch received; all right.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy have opened their batteries on Fort Harrison.

G. WEITZEL.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel COMSTOCK,
City Point:

On my front the enemy is only shelling my key point, Fort Harrison. I see no movements of enemy's troops as yet. I have drawn out a little reserve of six regiments from my line to send to Birney if necessary. From the other points all I hear is that Kautz has been driven in, and that the enemy was on right and rear of Birney. I have heard nothing from there during the last half hour, and at this moment all is quiet there.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—12 m. (Received 12.20 p. m.)

Major-General WEITZEL:

Birney reports that he easily repulsed the enemy on his right, but that Pickett's and Field's divisions are going still farther to his right. If I take the offensive, what force can you spare to hold Birney's left?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I can spare six small regiments, about 1,000 men.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—1 p. m.

General WEITZEL:

Relieve as much of William Birney's [line] as you can. He is on your left. I believe that most of the force has been withdrawn from your front. I do not know any new troops that have come over.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864. (Received 1.15 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatch received. It will be attended to at once.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 7, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

From the best information I can get you have before you only a part of Pickett's division (four regiments) and the Virginia local defense troops. Birney is about to make an attack. Aid him all you can.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864. (Received 2 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH:

I believe there is but a small force in my front. I have ordered still another regiment, a large one, to relieve a portion of General Birney's line. This is seven regiments I have sent.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—3 p. m. (Received 3.55 p. m.)

Major-General WEITZEL:

The enemy, I think, will make a severe attack on you. Can you hold him? It will be about 4 o'clock.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

General BUTLER:

I can, if he attacks anywhere near Fort Harrison, but I have weakened my left very much to help Birney.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864. (Received 4.10 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

It is now 4 o'clock and there is not the least indication of an attack on me. The unusual quiet is the only strange thing. I feel as if I could make a pretty good fight for a single line.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864. (Received 7 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Won't you please inform me what has transpired on Kautz's and Birney's front to-day, as I am ignorant of everything that has taken place there.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—7.30 p. m. (Received 8.05 p. m.)

Major-General WEITZEL:

At 6.45 a. m. Field's and Hoke's divisions moved to our right and attacked Kautz, driving him back, with small loss in men, but all his artillery. The enemy then swept down toward Birney, who, having refused his right, met them and drove them back, with slaughter; then Birney took the offensive, and, having inflicted a loss of 1,000 killed and wounded, and about 100 prisoners, now holds Kautz's old line. Kautz does not say what loss he inflicted. Our loss is not one-eighth of theirs.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

What is the latest news?

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL:

Birney thinks the enemy have returned to their old position, and possibly with intent to attack your left or Harrison at daylight. I know you will be ready. We have much the best of this day's work.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864. (Received 8.40 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatch received. Shall I continue to hold that part of General Birney's line that I did this afternoon?

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—9 p. m. (Received 9.20 p. m.)

Major-General WEITZEL:

Birney now holds from the Darbytown road to your right. I have directed him to strengthen his left, so as to be able to aid you in case of attack. If your men get their coffee early in the morning you can hold.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 7, 1864.

General BUTLER:

Dispatch received; all right.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
Before Richmond, October 7, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Corps:

GENERAL: I wish you could give me specific instructions what I shall do in case the enemy at any time attempt to move by my front to turn my left. I think they can do this if they only knew it. My line is too weak to be stretched over more ground.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 103. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS, *Before Richmond, Va., October 7, 1864.*

OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS OF THIS DIVISION:

Major-General Birney, commanding Tenth Corps, has desired me to express to you the high satisfaction he felt at your good conduct while we were serving with the Tenth Corps, September 29 and 30, and with your gallantry in storming New Market Heights. I have delayed issuing this order, hoping for an opportunity to say this to you in person. Accept also my own thanks for your gallantry on September 29 and your good conduct since. You have the good opinion of the whole Army of the James and of every one who knows your deeds. Let every officer and man on all occasions exert himself to increase your present deserved reputation.

CHAS. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864.

Colonel POTTER:

Do not open if the enemy's gun-boats do not fire. The signal officer on your right reports a new embrasure near Howlett's. Keep a sharp lookout in that direction.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff.

JONES' LANDING, *October 7, 1864.*

General BUTLER:

My vedette line on the New Market road reports that rebel cavalry and infantry are moving down to the right of Spring Hill. No troops there, save fifty or sixty cavalry.

ARNOLD A. RAND,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864—7.15 p. m.

General KAUTZ:

I grieve for your loss. You do not state what loss you inflicted on the enemy. The enemy attacked General Birney's right; were repulsed with slaughter, with a loss of 1,000 killed and wounded and 100 prisoners. Birney then took the offensive and drove them back, and now holds your old line with a division of infantry.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ:

General Terry, with such troops as he has under his command, holds your old position. You will move up your command just before day, and, reporting to him for this purpose, take position to strengthen his right and flanks.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Sent 10.50 a. m.)

Major-General BUTLER, *Deep Bottom:*

I have nothing very particular to communicate this a. m. Deserters from the enemy report no change in position of troops or indications of movements. The enemy is apparently engaged in fortifying against a farther advance. By direction of the lieutenant-general commanding, received last night, I am this morning advancing my pickets and making threatening demonstrations along my front with a view of preventing any detachments by the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to Brigadier-General Rawlins, City Point.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—5 p. m. (Sent 6.40 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER, *Deep Bottom:*

The reconnoitering parties sent forward this morning along the front from the Jerusalem plank road to the extreme left drove the enemy's pickets into their works, which were found well manned. From prisoners taken to-day, and from several deserters who came in this morning, I am of the opinion there are in front of me Heth's, Wilcox's, Mahone's, and B. Johnson's divisions, extending from the Appomattox to the South Side Railroad, in the order enumerated; Heth on their right and Johnson on the left. The lines advanced to-day will be withdrawn after dark.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to Brigadier-General Rawlins, City Point.)

HEADQUARTERS,
Near Varina, October 8, 1864—7.45 p. m.
(Received 11 a. m. 9th.)

Major-General MEADE:

Dispatch received. Upon full examination I agree as to your force. It was reported to me in the morning of yesterday that prisoners from Heth's and Wilcox's divisions were captured. This at first caused some anxiety, but upon personal examination I find that they were soldiers of those divisions who had deserted and been, in the exigency, taken out of Castle Thunder and put into the local defense. We have before us Field, Hoke, four regiments of Pickett, and Bushrod Johnson's composite brigade, and some 5,000 local defenses. In the affair of yesterday we killed General Gregg, commanding Field's division; wounded severely General Bratton, Colonel Haskell, of the Seventh South Carolina Infantry [Cavalry], and Major Haskell, of the South Carolina artillery, and quite 1,000 others; captured 150 prisoners and deserters. I have over 50 deserters to-day. We lost less than 400 all told. All quiet to-day.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

This message was delayed by break in line between City Point and General Butler's.

OPERATOR.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Comdg. Army of the Potomac, Headquarters Ninth Corps:

Two prisoners from Sixteenth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, sent in by the Fifth Corps, state all the brigades of Wilcox's division are on this side the Appomattox. Scales' and Anderson's (formerly of Field's division) are not far from the lead-works, while Lane's and McGowan's, they say, are some distance off on their right, with Heth's division. They represent the cavalry to be connecting with their right. Thomas' brigade, when they last heard of it, was north of the Appomattox. This was some time ago. Thomas and Anderson are represented to have exchanged. This disposition of the troops agrees with the statement of the two deserters from Lane's brigade sent in yesterday by General Parke.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters have just been forwarded from the headquarters Ninth Army Corps. They came into our lines this a. m. at sunrise. One from the Fourteenth South Carolina, McGowan's brigade, states that he left his brigade about half a mile to the west of the Jones house and about half a mile from the plank road (Boydton). Lane's brigade was on the right of McGowan's, these two brigades being all of Wilcox's division in that vicinity. Part of Heth's division on the left of McGowan's brigade. Only knows of Archer's brigade being there. The one from the Eleventh North Carolina, Kirkland's brigade, of Heth's division, states that his brigade (Kirkland's) is on the extreme right of the infantry line and joins the cavalry; Davis' brigade next on the left, then Cooke's joining Davis'. No other infantry on the right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following dispatch from the plank road station is respectfully forwarded:

At sundown a considerable force of infantry was in line between the lead-works and point of woods northwest of station. I can form no idea of their numbers. The column appears through openings in the timber at different points from near lead-works to half a mile to the right, but neither end is visible, nor do they give any indication as to the direction they will move. There was also additional evidence of movements on our left, a continual rising of dust seen between sundown and dark in vicinity of the fort west of the Weldon railroad.

At 5 p. m. Captain Davis reports about 1,000 men, infantry, moving westward on the Boydton plank road. They were seen passing a point a quarter of a mile west of the toll-gate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 272. } *October 8, 1864.*

1. Leave of absence is granted to the following-named officers: Maj. Gen. John Gibbon, volunteer service, for eight days; Maj. Gen. A. A. Humphreys, volunteer service, for seven days.

* * * * * * *

3. Col. J. C. Tidball, Fourth New York Artillery, is assigned to the command of the Artillery Brigade, Ninth Army Corps, and will report accordingly.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864. (Received 9 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

No change is reported on my line. Two deserters, one from Harris' brigade and one from Finegan's brigade, came in during the night. They report nothing new.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

One of Gibbon's division attempted to desert to the enemy this morning and was killed by one of our sharpshooters. His body has not been secured.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—1.50 p. m. (Sent 2 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Crawford and General Parke are making a reconnaissance, and General Crawford's picket-line is now advanced beyond where it was this morning. It will be established further forward permanently. Please have your picket-line on the left thrown forward correspondently, and the connection with the Fifth Corps kept up.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

In the advance of the Fifth Corps picket there was such a gap made from right to left that General Crawford says it will take 140 men to fill up the gap. It is filled, however, but General Crawford asks me to replace the men, which I submit to you for your decision. You well know what parties, if any, should be called upon to furnish. I had ordered it filled up, but when I sent to have it done found that it had been filled by Fifth Corps.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 8, 1864. (Received 4.55 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Two deserters from Wise's brigade have just come in. They report nothing new.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

Your dispatch relative to space between the Second and Fifth Corps pickets filled by a detail from Fifth Corps is received. I understand from General Crawford's dispatches that this space became open by the advance of his picket-line, and I suppose that if your picket-line was thrown forward correspondingly the vacancy would be filled without any new detail. Is this so, or must an additional number be put on picket, whether your line is advanced or not?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Mott.

The commanding general desires to be informed whether this connection can be properly made by moving forward your left; and, if so, that it will be done without further orders.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I advanced my whole picket-line this morning by orders from General Meade. It will take 140 men to make the connection good between your left and my right. I supplied a portion of the men this morning, and will be glad if you will send the requisite number to relieve the

men sent out by me and to make the connection strong. This will require 140 men, and my officers are instructed to post them when they arrive.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General Mott.

After reading please return. After receiving your report as to the number of men put on by you to make the connection, I will refer the matter to General Meade to adjust the number to be furnished hereafter, but do not leave a gap.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 8, 1864—1.50 p. m.

Brevet Major-General MOTT, *Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: General Crawford is advancing his line, under directions from the headquarters of the army, and will take up a permanent position in front of the line he has heretofore held. The general desires you to advance the left of your picket-line to conform to the movement of General Crawford's line, consulting if necessary with General Crawford. It is understood the movement referred to is now being made.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the Fifth Corps have broken the connection of the picket-line, and there is now nearly half a mile where there are no pickets on the line, and no connection with my left.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. MOTT, *Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires me to inform you that the detail ordered from your division by letter from these headquarters of yesterday need not report to-morrow morning, it being Sunday, but will report Monday morning again at the usual hour.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 86. } HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 3D DIV., 2D CORPS, *October 8, 1864.*

I. During the temporary absence of Brig. Gen. R. de Trobriand, Col. William R. Brewster, Seventy-third New York Volunteers, will assume command of this brigade.

II. Second Lieut. P. Crawford, Seventeenth Maine Volunteers, is hereby detailed for duty as engineer officer of this brigade, and will report to Col. William R. Brewster, commanding brigade, for duty.

III. First Lieut. J. F. Kavanagh, Fortieth New York Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty as engineer officer of this brigade and will at once report to the commanding officer of his regiment.

By command of Brig. Gen. R. de Trobriand:

JAMES M. LINNARD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—8.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Parke sends word that his line is advancing on the left. My own line is pushing out, but its right is so close to the enemy's line that they cannot advance over fifty yards without drawing fire from the enemy's works. Our signal officer reports our skirmish line pushed out on the Squirrel Level road and slowly advancing.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Our line has advanced on the left nearly a mile in front of our present position. It occupies a line of old works of the enemy. The enemy have a thin line in their works. Their advanced sentinels have been driven from their line of pits on our right of the railroad and the line advanced. The distance is so great that I desire to know if I shall still go toward the enemy's works. Scales' and McGowan's brigades, of Wilcox's division, are in our front.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—The picket-line is well supported by a brigade of each division.

S. W. C.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

Your dispatch of 9.50 is just received. The object of your movement is not to attack the enemy, but to make him believe that you intend to attack. A supporting force should follow your picket or skirmish line,

and your whole force should make a show of moving forward; but if your pickets or skirmishers would be in danger of being overpowered by advancing farther they should not move on. You must use your own judgment as to this and other matters connected with your reconnaissance.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

OFFICIAL.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Furnished for the information of Generals Griffin and Ayres. The skirmishers will be pushed out until the enemy's force is developed, and the supports will be kept close at hand, so as to make as great a display of force in the face of the enemy as it is possible to do.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford, commanding corps:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Have received your dispatch of 10.30, and will act in accordance with it. Could not get off my last message to you before yours was transmitted, owing to an interruption in the wire.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Colonel Dana, commanding the skirmish line, reports that he has driven the enemy back to their works on our right in front of Fort Howard; that they appeared in considerable force and fired a volley at our men and yelled at them from their works. Under his instructions the right of our line has advanced as far as it can go.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—1 p. m. (Sent 1.12 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that when you have advanced your reconnaissance as far as you can with security, and have obtained all the information of the position and force of the enemy that it is practicable to obtain by reconnaissance, you will withdraw the force

engaged in the movement. This will be done in concert between the two corps. The commanding general desires that advantage be taken of the information gained to-day to advance the picket-line beyond its former position, holding as far in front as practicable, and improving the line in every way that the ground admits of.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Parke, commanding Ninth Corps.)

OFFICIAL.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS.

Furnished for the information of division commanders, who will please endeavor to gain all the information possible by the advance of the picket-line.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—1.20 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: My line has no connection with the Second Corps on the right in front of Fort Howard. I have ordered a regiment to support that flank. Will the Second Corps connect? Yours of 1 p. m. just received. I can establish the picket-line in a much better position than it held before the reconnaissance. Nothing later from the left.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—1.50 p. m. (Sent 2 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Colonel Collis, with all the infantry at headquarters, was sent to Fort Howard and ordered to report to you. General Hancock will be informed at once that you have advanced your picket-line and will be directed to connect with it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—2.15 p. m. (Sent 3 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Have you obtained any information to-day as to what divisions and brigades of the enemy are in your front or are present on the south side of the Appomattox? The commanding general wishes to have all the information upon that subject as soon as practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—2.40 p. m. (Sent 3 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

When you have completed your reconnaissance and get back your troops, please send back the headquarters troops as soon as you can dispense with them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your instructions have been received and will be complied with. The troops will be withdrawn at dark. General Meade is here.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864—1.30 a. m. (Received 4.20 a. m.)

General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

By direction of the major-general commanding, you will make a demonstration to my front at 7 in the morning. General Potter's division is on the left of General Griffin. I have directed General Potter to advance his skirmish line with strong supports. I presume that General Griffin will be instructed to advance his and preserve the connection.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—3.45 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I have received orders for the advance of the whole picket-line at 7 a. m. with a brigade from each division in support of its line.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Corps.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General PARKE:

I have directed that a close communication should be established and preserved with your line. Is the line moving? It is starting on the right.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fifth Corps.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864—7.45 [a. m.]. (Received 8 a. m.)

General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

My line is moving on the left. It, of necessity, must move out before my center and right, still I have directed that the connections with your corps be constantly preserved.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—11.06 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding:

Have you developed any force of the enemy opposite your left? Prisoners taken report Scales' and McGowan's brigades, of Wilcox's division, in my front. Do you propose to advance farther?

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

I am advancing my left. The center is far ahead of the rest of my line, and the right keeps pace with your left. I have a deserter this morning from McGowan's brigade.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The right of my skirmish line has advanced in front of Fort Howard and driven the enemy back to their works, where they seem to be in considerable force. This portion of my line is as far advanced as it can be.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Major-General PARKE:

GENERAL: The object of the reconnaissance has been accomplished on the right, and I have given orders for the establishment of the picket-line on the right only. Has your left advanced? General Ayres has orders to take the W. Davis house in his front. Please let me know when your line halts and you have accomplished your object, as we must fall back carefully and together.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—3.50 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I have given instructions for my troops to withdraw as soon as it is dark; the picket-line to be established in [the] advanced position.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—4.30 [p. m.].

General CRAWFORD:

Your dispatch of 3.50 received. I have given directions for the retiring of my force on the extreme left and at Hawks' house, and establish the new picket-line on my center and right; will correspond with yours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—5.05 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Your dispatch received. The picket-line of Griffin and Ayres will be to-night very near the same position as last night. The right of the line from the railroad to Hancock's left has been advanced. Report from our signal station says about 1,000 of enemy's infantry have just passed a point on Boydton plank road going westward.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

The entire corps will be under arms at 6 a. m. and ready to move. At 7 a. m. the enemy's picket-line will be driven in along our whole front. General Ayres' division, with Bragg's and Hofmann's brigades, of Baxter's division (Third), will move in support of the line and threaten an attack on the enemy's works in their front. Brigadier-General Griffin will hold his division in readiness to support the attack in case it is necessary to make a more extended attack. The chief of artillery will supply the necessary batteries in case of an advance. General Ayres will select an officer to advance the picket-line of the whole corps. One brigade from each division will support its own picket-line in the advance.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 250. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *October 8, 1864.*

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II. The battalion of the Eighth U. S. Infantry, having reported in compliance with paragraph VII, Special Orders, No. 271, headquarters Army of the Potomac, is assigned to the First Brigade, Second Division, and will report to Brigadier-General Ayres, commanding division.

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By command of Brigadier-General Crawford, commanding corps:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to inform you that Colonel Dana has pushed out his skirmish line on the right, opposite to Fort Howard, driving back the enemy to their works, where they appear to be in considerable force. They have fired volleys of musketry at our men, and yell them from their works. This portion of the line has advanced as far as it can go under present instructions. Have you anything new in your front?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Ayres.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The following is furnished for your information: Two prisoners from Sixteenth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, sent in by the Fifth Corps, state all the brigades of Wilcox's division are on this side the Appomattox. Scales' and Anderson's, formerly of Field's division, are not far from the lead-works, while Lane's and McGowan's, they say, are some distance off on their right, with Heth's division. They represent the cavalry to be connecting with their right. Thomas' brigade, when they last heard of it, was north of the Appomattox. This was some time ago. Thomas and Anderson are represented to have exchanged. This disposition of the troops agrees with the statement of the two deserters from Lane's brigade, sent in yesterday by General Parke. Prisoners received to-day report that Scales' brigade was sent to Richmond during the recent operations near that city and have only returned within the last three days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

GENERAL: Will you please send me any information you may have in regard to the position of the enemy. General Ayres is directed to advance and take the W. Davis house. Has the Ninth Corps moved with your division, or have you had any trouble in regard to your left? I desire that you will select some good line and re-establish the picket-line to-night. We have driven the enemy's skirmishers into their works on the right. The picket-line must be in advance of where it was last night. All I desire is that the enemy should see your force. When that is accomplished, or the enemy's skirmish line drawn in, the object of the reconnaissance is accomplished and you are at liberty to withdraw your command in connection with your right and left. Please inform me of the situation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Major-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Corps:

GENERAL: Your note is received. I have the honor to report that my picket-line is advanced and is about 1,000 yards from the enemy's works on my left and about 500 yards from his skirmish line, in full view. My left rests near the Boswell house.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRIFFIN,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, and to say that it is satisfactory, and that you have gone far enough. So soon as General Ayres completes the establishment of his line you can withdraw.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Colonel DANA,
143d Pennsylvania Volunteers, Comdg. Picket-Line:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to say that you will push out the skirmish line until the enemy's line of battle is developed. The object of this movement is not to attack the enemy, but to make

him believe that we intend to attack. Instructions will be sent at once to Generals Griffin and Ayres to have their supports close at hand. Should our skirmish line in their forward movement become in danger of being overpowered it will at once halt. Keep the general commanding informed of what is going on.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: You will at once advance your troops, take possession of the Davis house, driving the enemy from it, and establish your picket-line there, so as to straighten your line with General Griffin on your left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864. (Received 2 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to reply to your note that my skirmish line is on a line with the W. Davis house, as far forward as is judicious to send it. The enemy have a line of infantry sufficient, in connection with their artillery, to make a strong fight.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note respecting your skirmish line. In reply, I am directed by the general commanding to say that it is satisfactory, and that you need not proceed any farther. He desires you to establish your picket-line in advance of where it was last night, selecting for the purpose some good ground and making good your connection right and left. Please report any information you may have gained with respect to the enemy and his position and works. Prisoners received state that their picket-line was not allowed to be relieved this morning, but that the relief and the old detail remained in the pits in your front.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to say that you can use your own judgment about the withdrawal of your picket-line, but it must not be drawn so far back as to be in rear of the line occupied last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864. (Received 9 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the operations of my division to-day. I advanced my pickets according to orders. They were advanced till the enemy's were struck outside their main works. I also advanced a brigade on the Vaughan and one on the Squirrel Level road. I subsequently burned the W. Davis house. I also drew back my picket-line at dark, preferring the old line. I lost a few men. I will send in a nominal list of casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864—12.15 p. m.

By this movement it is not intended to fight a battle. The purpose is to make a show of force, to make the enemy believe we intend to attack. It is not desired that the skirmish line be advanced to a position where they will be in danger of being overpowered. Should the enemy send out a strong force to attack it is expected that the skirmish line and the supporting troops shall fight retiring, according to tactics.

By order of Brigadier-General Ayres:

C. E. LA MOTTE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

OCTOBER 8, 1864—2.20 a. m.

Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

You will please direct the whole corps to be under arms and ready to move at 6 a. m. this morning. At 7 o'clock the enemy's picket-line will be driven in along our whole front. Ayres' division, with Bragg's and Hofmann's brigades, of Baxter's division, will move in support of the line, and threaten an attack on the enemy's works in their front. Brigadier-General Griffin will hold his division in readiness to support

the attack, in case it is necessary to make a more extended attack. The chief of artillery will supply the necessary batteries, in case of an advance. General Ayres will select an officer to advance the picket-line of the whole corps. General Crawford directs me to send you the following order* in regard to the movement.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD C. BAIRD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—One brigade from each division will support its own picket-line in the advance. Please have the signal officer at his post at daylight this morning, and issue the necessary orders at once to have the above movement effected.

OCTOBER 8, 1864.

Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: General Crawford directs me to request you to telegraph General Parke in regard to this movement, and that the whole picket-line will be advanced at 7 o'clock with a brigade from each division in support of its line.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD C. BAIRD,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A deserter has just come in from the Twenty-seventh North Carolina, MacRae's brigade; says that he came on picket yesterday evening and would have been relieved to-night; that when he came out all of Heth's division was here, and he thinks two brigades at least of Wilcox. Thinks that if there had been any movement of Heth's division he would have known it.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Potter is advancing his line; reports the enemy has very materially increased his skirmish line. General Willcox moved out toward Hawks'. His advance within 400 yards of rebel redoubt; found a working party there, which has retired. He will make a demonstration on the redoubt. I don't think it can be occupied by any force.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

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* See Humphreys to Crawford, 11.45 p. m., 7th, p. 106.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—10.15 a. m. (Received 11.35 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

General Willcox reports that he now occupies the rebel redoubt. He is sending small parties out in advance to feel the enemy.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Crawford telegraphs at 10.50 a. m. that the left of his line has advanced nearly a mile in front of his present position, and occupies a line of old works of the enemy; that the enemy have a thin line in their works. How is it with your reconnaissance?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—11.30 a. m. (Received 11.40 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Potter reports at 10.15 that his right has considerably advanced; I presume, of course, keeping pace with the left of the Fifth Corps. Potter's center is far ahead of his whole line. Willcox is now sending out from the rebel redoubt; says the enemy's skirmishers fell back before him and now occupy a ridge between the redoubt and Boydton plank road.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Dispatch of 1 p. m. received.* A dispatch from General Willcox of 12.30 p. m. states that he cannot safely advance his right any farther. He has directed General Hartranft to attack the enemy's skirmishers on the left. As soon as I hear the result of this I will direct the return of Willcox, in connection with the Fifth Corps movement. The center of the line occupies such a salient position that it is not safe to advance it unless our left is thrown well around to the northward, but this is not prudent in my opinion. As far as I can judge at present the enemy occupy about the same position as they did when General Mott advanced, although their skirmishers were considerably advanced. The center, a salient point on our extreme northwest, is now on the most favorable ground and I will not change it. To the right and left I will make the dispositions directed.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

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* See Humphreys to Crawford (same to Parke), p. 125.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864—2.10 p. m. (Sent 2.22 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

If the deserters from MacRae's and McGowan's brigades are still at your headquarters, will you endeavor to ascertain from them where the rest of Heth's and Wilcox's divisions are, and send any other information of the position of the enemy's troops you have gained to-day? It is desirable to ascertain whether all of Hill's corps, as well as Johnson's division, of Beauregard's troops, are still south of the Appomattox.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have again examined these two deserters. One from McGowan's brigade left last evening. Says that McGowan and Lane were here yesterday; that when they left the intrenchments before Petersburg Scales was north of the James and Thomas north of the Appomattox. The other belongs to MacRae's, and says positively that MacRae, Davis, and Cooke were here yesterday, and does not know whether Archer was away or not; thinks not. They do not know anything of Johnson's troops. Owing to a change in provost guard these men were not sent up this morning. I have heard nothing later from General Wilcox.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 195. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, Va., October 8, 1864.

* * * * * * *

5. Brig. Gen. J. F. Hartranft, commanding Second Brigade, First Division, is hereby assigned temporarily to the command of the Third Division, Ninth Army Corps.

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—8.45 a. m.

Maj. P. M. LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

MAJOR: Hartranft's and McLaughlen's brigades are in line in rear of the cavalry vedettes on both sides of the road. I will move forward again as soon as the connection is established between McLaughlen's

right and Harriman's left. The enemy's skirmishers in their pits are discovered on the left of the road about 500 yards in front of Hartranft's and extending toward our left and rear.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

My advance is now up to the rebel works on the right of the road and General Hartranft's advance is within 400 yards of the rebel redoubt near the Hawks house. He found a working party there, which has retired. I will make a demonstration on the redoubt in a few minutes.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—10.05 a. m.

Major LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

I occupy the redoubt near the Hawks house and am sending a small party farther in advance to feel the enemy beyond the works, and shall gradually extend toward the left.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Major LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

I have information from several points that the enemy's main force is moving toward my left. My skirmish line now confronts the enemy's skirmishers, and they are inclined to dispute our farther advance. Have you any orders?

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—10.10 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX:

Received dispatch of 10.05. General Potter reports 9.30 that his left brigade (Griffin's) report the enemy moving from their right toward my (Potter's) left. Colonel Harriman should be apprised of this.

Respectfully, yours,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
October 8, 1864—10.35 a. m.

Respectfully referred to Colonel Harriman, commanding First Brigade, for his information.

By order of General Willcox:

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

OCTOBER 8, 1864—11.20 [a. m.].

GENERAL: Officer from the skirmish line reports the enemy still moving to our left; also reports the enemy having left the large field in our front.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. HARRIMAN,
Colonel, Commanding First Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Major LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

MAJOR: General Hartranft reports a heavy line of battle advancing rapidly in his immediate front.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864—10.55 a. m.

General WILLCOX,
Commanding Division.

Have you any further information of the enemy's advancing a line of battle? What news have you from Harriman? Where is his skirmish line, and is the skirmish line up with that of the enemy? I do not wish to move out Ferrero's men until there is a pressing necessity. Do you think this exists?

Yours, &c.,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

The signal officer reports 10.30 that the enemy do not appear to anticipate any demonstration on our part. They are burning brush on their line and clearing up. Save this, everything is quiet. No working parties visible. The travel on the telegraph road is the same as ordinary.

O. B. W[ILLCOX].

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Major LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

The enemy have not developed any main line of battle as yet, but their skirmish line, which fell back before my advance, has returned part way and occupy a ridge intermediate between their old and new lines of works, re-enforced probably by their reserves. This ridge crosses the direct road between the Hawks house and the plank road. I have ordered a regiment as far up the road as is safe to reconnoiter. Colonel Harriman has not advanced his right in consequence of the troops on his right not moving. Contraband in Hawks' house says it is three miles from that house to the plank road, and that the enemy's works did not cross the plank road last Wednesday.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—11.35 a. m.

Major LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

Your dispatch directing me not to bring on a general engagement is received, 11.35 o'clock. I do not think it judicious to extend any farther to the left. The colored troops had better be sent up. I am throwing up temporary works from redoubt 200 yards to left of the road. The main object of attracting the enemy's attention seems to be accomplished.

I am, very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—11.40 a. m.

General WILLCOX:

General Potter reports 10.15 that his center is far ahead of his line, and that the left will have to move considerably before he can advance much farther, owing to the nature of things. If you can remain in your line and can make a drive on the enemy's skirmishers at some favorable point, do so.

Yours, respectfully.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—11.50 a. m.

Major LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

The enemy's line has retired from the ridge since the movement of a regiment up the road. I do not think it necessary to bring out Ferrero's men at present. I have just heard from Harriman. There is a small

gap between him and McLaughlen, which he is filling by moving out more men from his main works. I have ordered him to move out no more men than are necessary for supports and connections. His skirmish line has advanced with the other two brigades. He reported at 10.10 that the vedettes near the right of his line reported the enemy moving to our left and that his skirmish line confronted that of the enemy for quite a distance and that his connections were good. Since then I have heard from him and he reports nothing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have sent out scouting parties in a northerly direction from the Hawks house and also one to the left, with instructions to reach the plank road if possible. I am holding my lines near the Hawks house.

I am, very respectfully, &c.,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Just heard from reconnoitering party up the northerly road from Hawks' house. It moved up half a mile; met the enemy's vedettes; exchanged shots, and wounded one of their vedettes (mounted). Their vedettes then fell back to their skirmish line. The reconnoitering party heard the movement of wheels in their front.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864—1.55 p. m.

General WILLCOX:

Inclosed I send you a copy of a dispatch* just received from general headquarters. I have not heard from General Crawford in reference to the time of his withdrawal. As soon as I do I will let you know. I wish you at once to have the new line of pickets located connecting with the left of General Potter's. This line should be studied and determined on before withdrawing, and steps taken to have the line strengthened as suggested in General Humphreys' dispatch. Of course, I do not wish to hold out as far as you now occupy, and it may be that parts of the old line will have to be reoccupied, but, of course, all of this must be determined after a study of the ground. The instructions, however, state "to advance the picket-line beyond its former position," &c.

Very respectfully, yours,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

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* See Humphreys to Crawford (same to Parke), 1 p. m., p. 125.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—2.30 a. m.

A reconnaissance by this division will be made this morning as follows: The Second Brigade, Brigadier-General Hartranft commanding, will move so as to have the head of his column rest on the road near the Emory house (Colonel Harriman's old position on the left) by 7 a. m., followed by the Third Brigade. Colonel McLaughlen commanding. Colonel Harriman, commanding First Brigade, will relieve the pickets from Colonel McLaughlen's brigade at daybreak. Colonel Harriman will extend his line to the right so as to take up the line now held by Colonel McLaughlen in addition to his present line. The camps of the respective brigades will not be disturbed, and the troops will move in light marching order, carrying only their arms, accouterments, rations, and sixty rounds of ammunition. The skirmish line will be advanced under the direction of Colonel Harriman. As soon as the troops are set in motion all the brigade commanders will report to the general commanding the division at these headquarters for further instructions.

By command of Brig. Gen. O. B. Willcox:

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., FIRST DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Capt. JOHN D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I will move out my command and will place them in rear of my skirmish line on the right. They are moving out now. There will be quite a large gap between my left and Colonel McLaughlen's right, which I will fill up with a skirmish line. I have 400 men out as skirmishers and 300 as support.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAM. HARRIMAN,
Corps Officer of the Day.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864—11.25 a. m.

Colonel HARRIMAN,
Commanding First Brigade:

Your dispatch just received. The general commanding directs that you keep the men that are in your works to hold them, and not to send out more than you require, in case your skirmishers are driven in, to allow them to retire in safety, or more than may be necessary to keep up your connections, together with the requisite supports in advancing.

I am, very respectfully,

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 8, 1864—1.30 a. m.

General FERRERO,
Commanding Third Division:

Generals Willcox and Potter will advance their skirmish line at 7 in the morning, driving in the enemy's pickets, and make a demonstration

in order to prevent any more troops moving over the James to General Butler's front. General Willcox will move out the road passing the Clements house redoubt with two brigades at the same time. I wish you to let the details on the redoubts continue their work, and such men as are not at work along the infantry line should be under arms and ready for any emergency. I would like, if possible, for you to have two good regiments ready to move to any part of the line or to General Willcox's support in case there should be any need.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The cavalry on outpost duty north of the Blackwater should notify Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps, and the commanding officer of the troops at Old Court-House (near Bailey's Creek) of any serious movements of the enemy. General Hancock's headquarters are at the Deserted House, on the Norfolk road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 8, 1864—1.35 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Washington, D. C.:

Our success yesterday was a decided one, although the rebel papers claim a victory. They admit General Gregg killed and General Bratton wounded. General Gregg was in command of Field's division. The Richmond Examiner of this morning contains an official dispatch from Gordonsville last night, which states that a Yankee cavalry force yesterday burnt the railroad bridge over the Rapidan and made their escape. No movement on the Petersburg side. No more troops have been sent over from Lee. The movement of yesterday was made under his eye. All quiet to-day.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

Please order all men of the One hundred and forty-second, One hundred and twelfth, and One hundred and sixty-ninth New York to come up to me at once from the landing at City Point. There has been very unfair means used by officers from the Army of the Potomac in relation to these men. They have tampered with them, endeavoring to get them into regiments in the Army of the Potomac. Please order all men

for New York regiments not actually in the Army of the Potomac to report to me at Varina and send them with transportation to that point. While we are here fighting I had a little rather the Army of the Potomac would not steal our men.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *October 8, 1864.*
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

I have seen General Rawlins. He will issue the order at once.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Colonel and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 3D DIV., 10TH A. C.,
In the Field, October 8, 1864.

In pursuance of Special Orders, No. 16, headquarters Third Division, the undersigned hereby assumes command of this brigade. The existing staff and regulations will remain unchanged.

U. DOUBLEDAY,
Colonel Forty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

Deserters report that there is to be an attack to-morrow morning by troops under command of Longstreet. Deserters under way to you.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 8, 1864. (Received 9.40 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

The following dispatch has just been received from General Paine, commanding Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

My pickets report that a force of cavalry, supposed to be about a regiment, passed up the opposite bank of the river toward their pontoon bridge between 4 and 5 o'clock this afternoon.

C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General.

GODFREY WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, October 9, 1864.

General MEADE:

I am at City Point.

U. S. GRANT,

(Same to Major-General Butler.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserter from Fourteenth Tennessee, Archer's brigade, came in last evening about dark. Was forwarded from the Fifth Army Corps. He states that he went out on picket yesterday morning, and toward evening he learned from some of his regiment that the brigade was moving farther to the right. This was last evening.

NOTE.—The same information was given by deserter from Cooke's brigade; that his brigade moved about one mile and a half to the right yesterday. The man from the Fourteenth Tennessee is stupid and uninformed. Was recently conscripted, and cannot locate his brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Wise's brigade, Johnson's division, came into the lines of the Second Army Corps (General Gibbon's lines) about 8 o'clock last evening. From their statement Johnson's division is very correctly located. Their brigade (Wise's) is on the right of the division, the left of the brigade at the Burnside mine, extending toward the right nearly to the Jerusalem plank road. Ransom's brigade is on the extreme left on the Appomattox, next Gracie's, then Elliott's, the right of the latter at the Burnside mine. Informants say that the line is very thin, about a yard to a man, and only one line the entire distance. Mahone's division joins their right, but they cannot locate the brigades.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

P. S.—One of informants states that during the fight of last Friday on their right preparations for evacuation were being made. The two siege guns on the plank road (Jerusalem) were double charged and shotted, and then filled with mud and stones. They have since been cleared out.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Twenty-seventh North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, Heth's division, came into General Griffin's lines last evening. He states that he was informed by some of the pickets that the brigade had moved about one mile and a half to the right last

evening. Can give no further information about it, as he was on picket. Negro refugees report Hampton's cavalry near Burgess' Mill, on the Boydton plank road, near Hatcher's Run. Young's, Chambliss', and Barringer's brigades are encamped near the mill, with Hampton's headquarters at the mill. No infantry on Boydton plank road farther south than Dyson's place, two miles above Burgess' Mill.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 9, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters from the Forty-sixth Virginia, Wise's brigade, report that all or part of Pickett's division is south of the Appomattox. Have you any evidence of this?

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

CITY POINT, *October 9, 1864.*

Lieutenant DAVENPORT,
General Butler's Staff:

We got some information tending to show that Pickett's division or a part of it is south of the Appomattox. Please telegraph me at headquarters Army of the Potomac to-day, saying what you think of that and generally of the enemy's position.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserters yesterday mentioned a rumor that all or part of Pickett's division had moved to the south side of the Appomattox within the last two or three days. Not being able to locate Pickett's troops Colonel Sharpe was requested to obtain all possible information concerning him. The following telegram from General Butler is all that has been received:

Colonel SHARPE:

Your information regarding Pickett's division I think correct. Four regiments of each brigade left here day before yesterday and went to Petersburg. We have on our front Hoke's and Field's divisions and the local defense. More than four regiments of Pickett's division may be south of the Appomattox, but I have no positive information from the north side of the Appomattox to fix what is there.

J. I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

If there is any considerable force from Pickett's division on the south side of the Appomattox it must be in reserve of the forces operating on the enemy's right. None of the deserters received to-day knew anything about it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD STATION,
October 9, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Infantry reported halted in vicinity of lead-works in last report is not visible, and no indications as to their whereabouts. All quiet within our view.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

HALIFAX ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 9, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

No change in the enemy's line on this front observed to-day. Small force of infantry seen in fort east of toll-gate on the Boydton plank road. A few wagons seen moving east and west on the Boydton plank road.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant.

SQUIRREL LEVEL SIGNAL STATION,
October 9, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

No change in the enemy's line on this front observed to-day. Smoke seen issuing from woods in rear of enemy's works, near Boydton plank road, at a point about 15 degrees west by north. Few wagons seen moving in both directions past toll-gate on Boydton plank road. Smoke from an engine traced about half a mile, moving toward Petersburg, on line of South Side Railroad.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 9, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Captain Thickstun and Sergeants Jordan, Holman, and Carothers report all quiet this p. m.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 9, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

No change in my line since last report. Two deserters from Wise's brigade came in yesterday evening. They report no news.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 9, 1864. (Sent 10.40 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Crawford expects the right of his picket-line where it joins yours to be attacked. I notify you of this so that you may have yours looked out for.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 9, 1864.

General A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

General Mott reports to me that the opening between the pickets was not made by the right of General Crawford's pickets advancing, but by their moving off to the left. The pickets on his left can be advanced some distance and the connection kept perfect without any additional detail. He has been directed to advance accordingly.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 9, 1864—7.35 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

The major-general commanding directs that you send a small regiment to Battery 24 to-morrow to hold that part of the line between Fort Alexander Hays and Fort Howard. They will inclose themselves by throwing up a parapet in the rear. A section of two guns will be sent to the battery from the Fifth Corps. The Fifth Corps will occupy Battery 25 similarly.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 9, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to inform you that I have temporarily turned over the command of the division to Brig. Gen. R. De Trobriand. Col. William R. Brewster, Seventy-third New York Volunteers, will be in command of the First Brigade (General De Trobriand's).

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 9, 1864—7.40 p. m. (Received 8 p. m.)

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you withdraw the battery and garrison from Fort Davison to-morrow and send two pieces to Battery 24 and two pieces to Battery 25, and that you send a small regiment to Battery 25 to hold that part of the line. The Second Corps will send a small regiment to Battery 24. The regiment you send to Battery 25 will inclose themselves by throwing up a parapet in the rear.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 9, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The line of the Second Corps is reported by one of my staff officers to be very light. As I deemed it best to strengthen my own line in its advanced position, and as it is intrenched, I feel great anxiety lest the enemy, finding the line of the Second Corps at this point to be weak, may break through and get in my rear. It is very desirable to hold on to the line I have established. It is near to the enemy's line and in a position from which his movement can be watched. The enemy will, undoubtedly, make an effort to drive us from it.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 9, 1864.

Col. E. L. DANA,
Commanding 143d Pennsylvania Volunteers:

COLONEL: The general commanding the corps directs me to express to you his satisfaction with the performance of your duties yesterday as commander of the line of skirmishers of the corps. Your duties were important and arduous and of a highly responsible character, all of which you performed with credit to yourself and the command.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 9, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report all quiet along my lines during the night. The advanced picket-line was taken up last evening and is being readjusted and strengthened this morning.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 9TH A. C.,
No. 24, B. } *October 9, 1864.*

The general commanding desires in this manner to express his gratification at the uniformly good conduct of the Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry during the operations in which they have taken part under his command, and to return his thanks for the faithful and effective manner in which both officers and men have discharged their duty. Required to serve in a capacity different from that in which they entered the service, they have displayed soldierly qualities of the highest order. Their example is worthy of emulation and their patriotism to be admired. Whatever disappointment they may have felt, no act of theirs has exhibited any unwillingness to do the duties required of them, and their long roll of wounded and slain attests the faithfulness with which these have been performed. Being now about to enter the arm of the service to which they properly belong, the general expresses the hope that the same cool courage and faithfulness in the discharge of duty will characterize them, and that in the future their service may be as effective as it has been in the past.

By command of Brigadier-General Hartranft:

THOS. MATHEWS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on the cavalry picket-line. A scouting party yesterday went a mile below Fort Powhatan and only discovered three of the enemy in that section. Negroes report that a Captain Brown has been scouting that country with a company of rebel cavalry since the cattle raid.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG, *Commanding Cavalry:*

General Parke's picket-line is advanced and the cavalry picket-line on your right should be adjusted accordingly. I presume it has already been done.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I gave orders last evening that the cavalry picket-line on the left should be arranged with reference to any change in General Parke's line. A staff officer went over early this morning to see to it.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 9, 1864—7.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I am glad to hear of your safe return.* All quiet along my lines. I got seventy-five deserters yesterday; shall have about the same number by the morning; have twenty odd now. I am sorry to say Birney is so sick with dysentery that I must let him go home or lose him. Shall I have the pleasure of seeing you in the morning?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 282. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, October 9, 1864.*

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VI. Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty with the Eighteenth Army Corps, and will assume command of all the troops at Forts Powhatan and Pocahontas and Harrison's Landing, thereby relieving Brig. Gen. Gilman Marston.

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By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 9, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Please express to the general my appreciation of his kindness in the matter of sending me home. My fortifications to Four-Mile Church are almost complete. General Birney is opening short and several roads to the rear, and I have explained to General Terry my plan of several roads through the woods, commencing from extreme left to extreme [right], and narrow as salient was approached. If General Kautz will make a good strong corduroy road, wide and ample, from Doctor Johnson's house to my right flank he could always withdraw. I regard the position as perfectly defensible.

D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 134. HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS, *Before Richmond, Va., October 9, 1864.*

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4. In pursuance of instructions from the major-general commanding the corps, the One-hundredth New York Volunteers will immediately proceed to Deep Bottom and report to Col. A. A. Rand, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, commanding that post, relieving the One hundred

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* See Grant to Meade (same to Butler), p. 143.

and ninety-ninth Pennsylvanina Volunteers, which will, upon being relieved, march to the front without delay, and report for duty to Col. F. B. Pond, Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, commanding First Brigade.

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By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

A. TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 9, 1864—5.35 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL:

The enemy had some cavalry come over last night. May this not be a prelude to attempting to break through on the left? We have 1,000 beeves there as a temptation, to say nothing of a major-general and his staff. Will you look to that a little, as a deserter from the Virginia says that he came through from the grave-yard directly into your redoubt and was not challenged.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 9, 1864. (Received 6.35 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

I have a staff officer on Paine's picket-line every morning at 4 o'clock, who remains on until after sunrise. All the officers on this duty make the same charge you do against Paine's pickets. I have therefore sent the dispatch to him with orders to teach his pickets their duty. As for the cavalry dash, I would be most anxious to have the rebels try, for I need some spare horses very much. I think I could get them in that way.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 9, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have no objection to your taking General Carr from this command. He told me you would assign him to a separate command outside of this corps if I am willing. I would rather, however, that you would relieve Marston and let me keep Carr. The two together will not work.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 10, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Our entire loss in the enemy's attack on our lines on Friday, the 7th instant, does not exceed 300 in killed, wounded, and missing. The

enemy's loss is estimated by General Butler at 1,000. The Richmond Whig of the 8th, speaking of the attack, has the following:

The gallant General Gregg, commanding a Texan brigade, fell in the advance. Among other casualties we have to report General Bratton, of South Carolina, badly wounded; Colonel Haskell, Seventh South Carolina Infantry [Cavalry], severely wounded in face, and Major Haskell, of the South Carolina artillery, also wounded. Rumor stated that General Gary had been killed.

Since Friday there has been no fighting whatever.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

VARINA, *October 10, 1864—1 p. m.*
(Received 3.45 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I find our losses the other day [7th] were much less than first reported. Four hundred will cover our entire loss in killed, wounded, and captured. The enemy's loss was many more. About 150 were captured, and a great many dead fell into our hands. The loss of the enemy could not be less than 1,000 or 1,200.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 10, 1864—12 m. (Sent 12.10 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Nothing of importance occurred on the lines yesterday and last night. There was occasional picket-firing, and during the night a few discharges of artillery in the vicinity of the Jerusalem plank road. No indications of movements by the enemy reported either by deserters or signal officers.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Contrabands that left Petersburg last evening came into General Miles' lines this a. m. They came down the bank of the Appomattox on the Chesterfield side, and crossed the river at Covington. Some of them were bricklayers and have been recently employed at the Government lead-works. They report no movement of troops since last Saturday, when there was a considerable movement to the enemy's right. The greater portion of Lee's army south of the Appomattox is concentrated on their right, the lines from the lead-works to the left, as far as the Appomattox, being very thin, about three feet to a man in single line. All hospitals, commissary depots, Government work and railroad shops have been transferred to Danville; also the greater part of the rolling-stock of the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad. Last week several locomotives were taken to pieces and sent to

Danville, probably broad-gauge engines. Work at the lead foundry has been discontinued for the present. None of informants think Pickett's division is on this side of the river. One of them is very positive on his point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following detailed movements on the part of the enemy were observed to-day:

A new camp of nine wall-tents was pitched in vicinity of lead-works. At 9.30 a. m. about 1,000 infantry passed a point on Boydton plank road near toll-gate, going eastward. At 4 p. m. about 1,200 infantry passed same point, going westward. At 5.10 about 1,000 infantry passed same point, going westward.

The above reports were made by the officer with Fifth Corps. The plank road station corroborates the above, estimating the last two bodies at 2,600, followed by twelve ambulances and three wagons. This latter station also reports that these troops first appeared in vicinity of the lead-works; also that at 4.40 p. m. about 1,000 infantry came from the woods to the right of the large fort west of the Weldon railroad and moved toward our picket-line in vicinity of Weldon railroad.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 274. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 10, 1864.

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7. Maj. Septimus Carncross, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, having reported to the major-general commanding, is assigned to temporary duty with the Second Army Corps and will report to Major-General Hancock for further instructions.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that application be made for Allen's battery (H), First Rhode Island, now in camp near Washington, to be ordered to this army to relieve Brown's battery (A and B), First Rhode Island, that the latter may be sent to Washington to be reorganized and recruited. I am informed by Maj. J. A. Tompkins, First Rhode Island Artillery, now recruiting in Providence, that if these batteries were stationed in Washington he believes they could be filled up

in a comparatively short time. The united batteries have one officer and seventy-nine men present. If the change is made they can probably be filled up and instructed in the course of the fall and winter.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 11, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to headquarters Armies of the United States, with the request that the order asked for by General Hunt, chief of artillery, may be issued.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

There is nothing new to report this morning. Five contrabands from Petersburg came in this morning.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 10, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

There was some artillery firing last night, apparently from Fort Davis. Have you had any report of it?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864.

General MEADE:

The enemy fired a few shots, apparently at our picket-line, to which we replied. The report did not get in until after the morning report had been made.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In addition to my report of this a. m. I have to state that the picket-line of Mott's division has been advanced to the front edge of the woods in front of Fort Alexander Hays, and that the line is now intrenched and is considered strong. Only an open field is between the new line and the enemy's works.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: Before the picket-line was advanced I picketed half way to Fort Alexander Hays. When the line was advanced on Saturday I had 290 men from the right brigade, which was increased to 550. It is now reduced to 300. I do not know where the left of General Pierce's brigade is exactly, but think I now picket half way between Forts Howard and Hays. Will ascertain in the morning, and, if I do not, will send the additional men for that purpose. I was on the line to-day and found the connection was perfect with your line, but your line is thinner than mine and is not intrenched. From our advanced line a full view of the enemy's works can be obtained, and over a plain at least a mile in extent. I consider it very desirable to hold it under all circumstances.

Truly, yours,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 37. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864.

Maj. Septimus Carncross, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, having reported for duty at these headquarters, is hereby announced as assistant adjutant-general of the corps.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

I have the honor to report that the enemy were observed yesterday working on the fort near the deep railroad cut. The batteries at Fort Morton opened on them occasionally, forcing them to cease. About 12 p. m. last night the enemy fired a few shots from their artillery at our picket-line, to which our batteries replied. No casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. John N. Craig, assistant adjutant-general, artillery headquarters, Army of the Potomac.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General DE TROBRIAND,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding desires that you have the new picket-line of your division strengthened as much as possible

by digging rifle-pits and constructing abatis and making slashing where practicable. Particular care should be observed in strengthening that part running through the point of wood near the right of General Pierce's line, as it seems probable that the enemy will be more likely to attack here than at any other point on the line, owing to the advantage they would derive from forming unseen in the point of woods referred to.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864.

Brigade commanders will, without delay, comply with the requirements of the above order. Tools will be furnished on application to these headquarters.

By command of Brigadier-General De Trobriand:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. W. WILSON,
Field Officer Division Picket:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that the utmost vigilance be exercised during the night, and especially about daybreak, by your pickets, as a column of the enemy's infantry has been seen moving west upon the Boydton plank road this p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. E. LA MOTTE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

All quiet along our lines. The redoubts, intrenchments, and slashing are progressing well.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 10, 1864—11 p. m. (Received 11.30 p. m.)

Colonel LOCKE:

The left of my picket-line now rests on the Vaughan road below the redoubt on that road. In the morning I propose placing a regiment and also some guns in the redoubt between Vaughan road and Fort Dushane, if you will please connect with my present left to-night. Will have the line relieved in the morning to the front of the redoubt we are to occupy.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 124. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, October 10, 1864.*

Bvt. Maj. Gen. Alfred H. Terry is hereby assigned to temporary duty according to his brevet rank, and will assume command of the Tenth Army Corps during the absence of Major-General Birney, disabled by sickness.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 40. HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., October 10, 1864.*

1. The undersigned hereby assumes command of this corps during the temporary absence of Major-General Birney.

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ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 31. HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS, *Before Richmond, Va., October 10, 1864.*

1. In pursuance of instructions from corps headquarters the undersigned hereby assumes command of this division.

2. First. Lieut. Frederick A. Sawyer, Forty-seventh New York Volunteers, assistant commissary of musters, is hereby announced as acting assistant adjutant-general and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HATCHER'S, *October 10, 1864.*
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: But two deserters have been received since the 4th instant. These report that Pickett's division is in front, consisting of four brigades of Virginians and one brigade of Georgians; the latter on the Appomattox River. Deserters previous to the 4th reported that one regiment had been detached from each brigade for some other point.

J. H. POTTER,
Colonel, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, October 10, 1864.

Maj. THEO. H. SCHENCK,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report all quiet on my picket-line during the past twenty-four hours. A corporal reports seeing signal lights in

the direction of the Charles City road. Private Schermerhorn, Company G, Third New York Cavalry, deserted to the enemy yesterday, taking his horse but not his arms. He was not in possession of any intelligence which would be of any value to the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBT. M. WEST,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 11, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Nothing unusual has occurred on my lines during the past twenty-four hours beyond picket-firing and occasional interchange of artillery shots on the Jerusalem plank road. Deserters yesterday stated it was reported in their camps that Major-General Whiting, with 10,000 men from North Carolina, was at Stony Creek. I have directed General Gregg to send a reconnoitering party in that direction to endeavor to ascertain something positive about this.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserters from the Tenth Alabama, Colonel King's brigade (Wilcox's old), came into the lines of the Second Army Corps on the front of the Third Division about 10 o'clock last night. They locate all of Mahone's division as lying between the Jerusalem plank road and Weldon railroad. Three brigades, posted from their right to left, as follows, Wright's, Finegan's, and Wilcox's old, hold the entire line from the lead-works to the Jerusalem plank road. The other two brigades of the division, Mahone's old and Harris', are in reserve, camped about a quarter of a mile to the rear of the trenches. There has been no movement in their division since night before last, when an attack was expected and Mahone's old brigade re-enforced the division picket-line. Two conscript deserters from the Thirty-eighth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, of Wilcox's division, came into the lines of the Fifth Army Corps last night. They can give no information other than that their brigade lies in the trenches from the Weldon railroad, near the lead-works (where it joins Wright's (Georgia) brigade, of Mahone's division), to Battery No. 45, about half a mile west of the railroad. The remainder of their division (or two brigades—McGowan and Lane) is farther to the right, on the Boydton plank road. Contrabands coming in from Sussex report a considerable force at Weldon, but indefinite as to numbers or organization. About 300 infantry at Nottoway bridge, and a battalion of infantry and cavalry at Stony Creek Station, and a battery of artillery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following movements by the enemy have been observed to-day:

FRIEND'S HOUSE STATION.

At 4.45 p. m. a column of about 1,000 infantry passed into Petersburg from direction of Cemetery Hill going toward the Appomattox or in direction of Pocahontas.

STATION NEAR PEGRAM'S HOUSE.

Horses and artillery in works near Jones' house have been removed. A small camp near the Boydton plank road below the toll-gate has also disappeared. At 7.30 a. m. about 1,000 men, apparently a working party, moved westward on the Boydton plank road. At 8 a. m. about 130 infantry came from the direction of Petersburg and went into camp near the fort about three-quarters of a mile west of toll-gate.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 11, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in my line since last report. Twenty-nine contrabands and two deserters came in from Petersburg last night. The enemy opened a few guns early last evening, to which we replied.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 11, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

I have the honor to report that at about 6 p. m. yesterday the enemy opened fire from their mortar batteries in front of Fort Stedman. They also fired a few rifle projectiles. This was replied to by our mortars. The firing lasted about one hour. Last night a section of the Fourteenth Massachusetts Battery, 3-inch rifle, was moved out of fort or Battery 37 and into Battery 22.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. John N. Craig, assistant adjutant-general, artillery headquarters, Army of the Potomac.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 11, 1864.

Maj. H. H. BINGHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully request that the following changes may be made in the garrisons of the inclosed works on the line of this division:

Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers, Maj. J. E. Larkin, to be placed in Fort Stedman in place of Fifty-seventh and One hundred and twenty-fifth New York and One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania; Eighty-first Pennsylvania, Capt. L. Mercer, in Battery No. 4, in place of Second New York Artillery; Twenty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers, Major Fleming, in Battery No. 9, in place of Eighty-eighth New York; Sixty-ninth New York, Captain ———, in place of Seventh New York Artillery, in Batteries Nos. 11 and 12; Sixty-fourth New York, Lieutenant-Colonel Glenny, in Fort Stedman, in place of Fifty-third Pennsylvania; One hundred and eleventh New York, Captain Murdock, in Battery No. 13, in place of Sixty-ninth New York. These changes to be made by placing a number of men from the organizations named in the works equal to the number now in them. I request these changes as the regiments proposed to be placed in the works are mainly composed of substitutes who have recently joined, and the frequency of desertions among this class of men renders it necessary that they be placed in positions where they can easily be watched and guarded. I also recommend this, that they may be more easily drilled and disciplined than is possible in the trenches. The officers are men of experience.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 11, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired along my lines during the past twenty-four hours. Large details are at work on intrenchments and slashing. We propose constructing a small redoubt on the road between 400 and 500 yards to the right of the Pegram house. Major Michler informed me it would be laid out this morning.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 11, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. D. MCM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: Deserters report that Major-General Whiting, with a large infantry force from North Carolina, estimated at 10,000 men, is now at Stony Creek, and the commanding general desires to have a cavalry reconnaissance made in that direction as soon as practicable to see if any corroboration of this report can be obtained from citizens, contrabands, or others.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 11, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Comdg. Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you send a regiment of your brigade on a reconnaissance in the direction of Stony Creek Station. It has been reported by contrabands and others that Major-General Whiting, with a force of 10,000 rebel infantry, has arrived at Stony Creek, and the object of this reconnaissance is to get so close to the station that information may be had from citizens or negroes of the truth of this report. It is not known that there is any force of the enemy, save 150 cavalry, east of the Weldon railroad, and this cavalry is at a mill between Reams' Station and the plank road. The regiment should start from here at 6 o'clock, and should return before morning. To accomplish its object the regiment should move rapidly. Upon his return the commanding officer of the regiment will at once report in person to these headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 11, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

We have thirty-three deserters from the enemy this morning—ten, and a sergeant, from a Georgia battalion, lately from Mattoax Station, on Richmond and Danville road, now in our front; two from the ironclad Virginia, eighteen from local defense troops, and three negroes.

BENJAMIN F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Before Richmond, October 11, 1864.

SOLDIERS OF THE ARMY OF THE JAMES:

The time has come when it is due to you that some word should be said of your deeds.

In accordance with the plan committed to you by the lieutenant-general commanding the armies, for the first time in the war, fully taking advantage of our facilities of steam marine transportation, you performed a march without parallel in the history of war.

At sunset of the 4th of May you were threatening the enemy's capital from West Point and the White House, within thirty miles on its eastern side.

Within twenty-four hours, at sunset on the 5th of May, by a march of 130 miles, you transported 35,000 men—their luggage, supplies, horses, wagons, and artillery—within fifteen miles of the south side of Richmond with such celerity and secrecy that the enemy were wholly unprepared for your coming, and allowed you without opposition to seize the strongest natural position on the continent. A victory all the more valuable because bloodless!

Seizing the enemy's communications between their capital and the south you held them till the 26th of May.

Meanwhile your cavalry, under General August V. Kautz, cut the Weldon road below Petersburg twice over and destroyed a portion of the Danville railroad, while the colored cavalry, under Col. Robert M. West, joined you by a march from Williamsburg across the Chickahominy to Harrison's Landing.

From the 12th to the 16th of May you "moved on the enemy's works" around Fort Darling, holding him in check while your cavalry cut the Danville road, capturing his first line of works, repulsing with great slaughter his attack, which was intended for your destruction.

Retiring at leisure to your position, you fortified it, repulsing three several attacks of the enemy, until you have made it strong enough to hold itself.

Fortifying City Point, Fort Powhatan, Wilson's Wharf (Fort Pocahontas), you secured your communications, and have practically moved Fortress Monroe as a base within fifteen miles of the rebel capital—there to remain till that travels.

Re-embarking after you had secured your position, with nearly your whole effective strength, under Maj. Gen. William F. Smith, you again appeared at White House within forty-eight hours after you received the order to march, participating at the memorable battle of Cold Harbor with the Army of the Potomac, where the number and character of your gallant dead attest your bravery and conduct.

Again returning in advance of that army on the 15th of June, under General Smith, the Eighteenth Corps captured the right of the line of defenses around Petersburg, and nine pieces of artillery, which lines you have since held for three months.

On the 16th of June a portion of the Tenth Corps, under Brig. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, again threw itself upon the enemy's communications between Richmond and Petersburg, and destroyed miles of the road, and holding it cut for days.

The Tenth Corps, on the 14th day of August, passing the James at Deep Bottom, under Maj. Gen. David B. Birney, by a series of brilliant charges carried the enemy's works near New Market, and, two days later, another line of works at Fussell's Mill, defended by the best troops of Lee's army, bringing back four guns and three battle-flags as trophies of their valor.

Again crossing the James on the 29th of September, with both corps, with celerity, precision, secresy, and promptness of movements seldom equaled, with both corps in perfect co-operation, you assaulted and carried at the same moment—the Tenth Corps and the Third Division of the Eighteenth Corps, under General Birney—the enemy's strong works with double lines of abatis at Spring Hill, near New Market, while the remaining divisions of the Eighteenth Corps, under Maj. Gen. Edward O. C. Ord, carried by assault Battery Harrison, capturing twenty-two pieces of heavy ordnance—the strongest of the enemy's works around Richmond.

The army thus possessed itself of the outer line of the enemy's works and advanced to the very gates of Richmond. So vital was your success at Battery Harrison that on the 1st of October [September 30], under the eye of General Lee himself, massing his best troops, the enemy made most determined assaults upon your lines to retake it and were driven back, with the loss of seven battle-flags and the almost annihilation of a brigade (Clingman's). After a week's preparation,

massing all his veteran troops on your right flank, on the 7th of October the enemy drove in the cavalry, with the loss of some pieces of horse artillery, but meeting the steady troops of the Tenth Corps were repulsed with slaughter, losing three commanders of brigades killed and wounded, and many field and line officers and men killed, wounded, and prisoners.

Such is the glorious record of the Army of the James—never beaten in a battle, never repulsed in an assault by a larger portion of its forces than a brigade.

All these triumphs have not been achieved without many loved and honored dead.

Why should we mourn their departure? Their names have passed into history emblazoned on the proud roll of their country's patriot heroes.

Yet we drop a fresh tear for the gallant General H. Burnham—a devoted soldier leading his brigade to the crest of Battery Harrison, where he fell amid the cheers of the victorious charge. In his memory Battery Harrison will be officially designated Fort Burnham.

Of the colored soldiers of the Third Divisions of the Eighteenth and Tenth Corps and the officers who led them, the general commanding desires to make special mention.

In the charge on the enemy's works by the colored division of the Eighteenth Corps at Spring Hill, New Market—better men were never better led, better officers never led better men. With hardly an exception officers of colored troops have justified the care with which they have been selected. A few more such gallant charges and to command colored troops will be the post of honor in the American armies. The colored soldiers by coolness, steadiness, and determined courage and dash have silenced every cavil of the doubters of their soldierly capacity, and drawn tokens of admiration from their enemies; have brought their late masters even to the consideration of the question whether they will not employ as soldiers the hitherto depised race. Be it so; this war is ended when a musket is in the hands of every ablebodied negro who wishes to use one.

In the present movement, where all have deserved so well, it is almost invidious to name, yet justice requires special gallant acts noticed.

Major-Generals Ord and Birney receive the thanks of the commanding general for the prompt celerity of the movement of their corps, both in time and manner, thereby securing thorough co-operation, although moving over different lines. Their active promptness cannot be too much commended as an example in other operations. To be able to move troops in exact time is a quality as scarce as it is valuable.

General Ord received a severe wound while directing the occupation of a captured redoubt.

Brigadier-General Stannard is particularly distinguished for his gallantry in leading his division in the assault until he lost his arm. The commanding general takes pleasure in recommending General Stannard to promotion for meritorious services.

First Lieut. C. W. Cook, Twenty-first Connecticut, acting aide to Brigadier-General Stannard, has special mention for distinguished gallantry and is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of Connecticut for promotion.

All commanders of divisions and brigades acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of the commanding general in the fight. The manner of the march of some of their columns can and will be improved.

EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

FIRST DIVISION.

In the First Brigade, Lieutenant-Colonel Raulston, commanding, reports that his whole command behaved in so creditable a manner that he has no individual instances of gallant conduct to report.

Second Brigade.

Asst. Surg. J. G. Porteous, One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers, deserves the highest credit for his bravery and attention to duties, being the only surgeon in the brigade advancing with his regiment in the charging column.

Lieut. Col. George F. Nichols, One hundred and eighteenth New York Volunteers, deserves honorable mention for the gallant manner, with a small number of men, with which he captured two redoubts on the right of Fort Harrison while the main assault was being made, and also for his cool conduct of the skirmish line in the general assault.

Lieutenant Campbell, One hundred and eighteenth New York, aide to Brigadier-General Burnham, carried an order to the assaulting column when near the brow of the fort under a heavy fire—a most gallant act.

Lieuts. N. J. Gibbs and H. J. Adams, of the same regiment, the first men in the redoubts, are commended for their presence of mind in turning the enemy's guns to bear upon them. They are respectfully recommended to his excellency the Governor of New York for promotion.

Corpl. Michael Finegan, One hundred and eighteenth New York, is reported for his cool and humorous courage in capturing a rebel, forcing him to stand on the parapet, face the enemy, and give three hearty cheers for the Union.

Private Franklin Johndro,* One hundred and eighteenth New York, was especially conspicuous, capturing forty prisoners after the enemy's assault of the 30th. He is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal for gallant conduct.

Col. Michael T. Donohoe, Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers, has credit for the gallant manner in which he advanced his skirmish line from Aiken's Landing, having his horse shot under him, and afterward being severely wounded.

Private James Bradbury [James Brady],* Tenth New Hampshire Volunteers, is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal for gallantry in capturing a rebel stand of colors.

William S. Simmons and Jacob Bishop, color-sergeants of the Eighth Connecticut Volunteers, are commended for planting their colors on the parapet of the fort among the earliest. Sergeants Bishop and Simmons are promoted to second lieutenants in the U. S. Colored Troops, with the approval of the President.

Corpl. Nathan E. Hickock,* Eighth Connecticut Volunteers, has honorable mention for his gallantry in capturing a rebel battle-flag, and is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal. His colonel will see that he has his warrant as a sergeant.

Chaplain Nathan Wardner, of the Ninety-sixth New York Volunteers, is specially commended for charging with his regiment in the advancing column, ready to administer the lasting consolations to the dying.

*Awarded a Medal of Honor.

Sergt. Lester Archer,* of the Ninety-sixth New York, has honorable mention for his gallantry in placing the colors of his regiment on Battery Harrison. There is a generous rivalry between the color bearers of the Eighth Connecticut and the Ninety-sixth New York as to which were the first in planting their colors—so nearly equal were they that it is difficult to say which were in advance. May that rivalry always continue.

Capt. Enoch W. Goss, of the Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, is commended for leading the skirmish line and the capture of prisoners and battle-flags after the enemy's charge of the 30th, in which 18 commissioned officers and 209 men were captured.

Actg. Adjt. Walter P. Long, Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers, is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of Connecticut for promotion for gallantly planting his colors among the first on the rebel fortifications.

Corpl. F. Clarence Buck,* Company A, Twenty-first Connecticut (sharpshooter battalion), is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal for courage. Although wounded in the arm, he refused to leave the field until the engagement closed. In addition he will have his warrant as sergeant.

Third Brigade.

Capt. Cecil Clay,* Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, has honorable mention. His color bearer being shot, he planted his colors on the fortifications of Battery Harrison, and was severely wounded in the act. He is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of Pennsylvania for promotion.

Sergt. Patterson T. Campbell, Company F, Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania, is noticed as capturing the first prisoner in the fort—a rebel captain. He is promoted to a lieutenancy in the colored troops.

Sergt. Nathaniel A. McKown,* Company B, Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania, advanced in front of our lines after the repulse of the enemy, capturing a rebel battle-flag under severe picket-fire. He is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal for gallantry. Sergeant McKown is promoted for good conduct to a lieutenant in the Sixth U. S. Colored Troops.

Corpl. Samuel Clapper, Company D, One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania, is recommended for a medal for gallant services in bringing off the colors of the Ninety-second New York—its own color-sergeant being wounded.

Corpl. Charles Blucher,* Company H, One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania, planted the first national colors on the fortifications in the charge of September 29. He is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal for gallantry, and will have the warrant of a sergeant.

Corpl. William Graul,* Company I, One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania, first planted the colors of his State on the fortifications of the enemy. He is recommended for a medal for gallant conduct.

Theodore Kramer,* Company G, One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania, took one of the first prisoners, a captain, in the charge of the 29th, and is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

Sergt. William E. Gibson, Company K, Sergt. John Flanagan, Company I, and Sergt. Frank M. Hawley, Company B, One hundred and

* Awarded a Medal of Honor.

eighty-eighth Pennsylvania, were conspicuous for humane daring in volunteering to bring off the wounded under a heavy fire September 29. There are some who will carry wounded to the rear; these sergeants brought them from the front. Sergeants Gibson, Flanagan, and Hawley are promoted for good conduct and soldierly bearing to lieutenants in the U. S. Colored Troops.

Private Joseph H. Shea,* Ninety-second New York, is recommended for a medal for like gallant conduct in bringing the wounded from the field under fire of the enemy after the retirement of the line.

The First Division of the Eighteenth Army Corps and the One hundred and fifty-eighth New York will be entitled to inscribe Battery Harrison on their colors. The quartermaster will furnish a new stand of colors with inscription for each regiment.

SECOND DIVISION.

Surg. George De Landre, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York, while under fire, worked faithfully day and night, dressing the wounds of those who required attention, without reference to corps. It is to be deplored that our regulations allow substantially no promotion to a surgeon; but for a gallant man to do his duty in such a manner is sufficient reward.

Sergt. Armand D. Alleaume, Company A, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York, for soldierly coolness in turning the captured guns upon the enemy, is promoted to captain of U. S. Colored Troops.

Samuel Graham, color-sergeant One hundred and fifty-eighth New York, is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal for conspicuous gallantry and bravery in the assault upon the second line of works, and is promoted as first lieutenant in the U. S. Colored Troops.

Sergt. William Laing,* Company F, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York, conspicuous for being among the first to scale the parapet, is recommended for a medal. Has since died of his wounds. His medal will be sent to his family.

First Sergt. Thomas Meagher,* Company G, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York, who led a section of his men on the enemy's works, receiving a wound while scaling the parapet, is recommended for a medal for his gallantry.

Privates Schiller* and Grube,* Company E, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York, are commended for advancing to the ditch of the enemy's works, although obliged to fall back, being unsupported. Schiller and Grube are recommended for medals for gallant conduct.

Corporal Murphy,* Company K, One hundred and fifty-eighth New York, distinguished himself by capturing a rebel battle-flag, for which service he received a twenty days' furlough and $25 from the commanding general.

Corporal Vanwinkle,* Privates Henry S. Wells* and George A. Buchanan,* One hundred and forty-eighth New York, are recommended to severally receive medals from the Secretary of War, for distinguished gallantry in taking positions in advance of the skirmish line, within short distance of the enemy's gunners, driving the cannoneers from their guns. Private Buchanan has since died of his wounds. The medal will be sent to his family. Vanwinkle and Wells will receive warrants as sergeants.

Augustine Flanagan,* sergeant Company A, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania, color bearer, conspicuous for bravery in charging on the enemy's works

*Awarded a Medal of Honor.

on the 29th of September, rushing forward with his colors, waving them and calling upon his men to follow, until he fell severely wounded. He is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

Sergt. Hezekiah Hammer, Company K, Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania, with great fearlessness rushed forward, seized the colors from the wounded color bearer, and brought them off the field, and is recommended for promotion another grade for his gallantry (being already a lieutenant) to His Excellency the Governor of Pennsylvania. Would that his whole regiment had emulated his example.

ENGINEER CORPS.

First Lieut. Peter S. Michie, of the U. S. Engineer Corps, acting chief engineer of the Army of the James, has most honorable mention for the zeal and energy of his services, unremitting and unwearied as well with the pontoon train as in the fortifications of the line. He is earnestly recommended to the President of the United States for brevets of captain and major.

Capt. J. W. Lyon, Fourth Rhode Island, in command of the pontoon trains of the Army of the James, receives commendation for his energy, ability, and promptness in the construction of the pontoon bridges by which the army crossed the river.

Capt. John L. Suess, First New York Engineers, has honorable mention for energy in prosecuting the work which enabled our forces to hold Fort Harrison. He has already lost an arm in the service and is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of New York for promotion.

Capt. Hiram Farrand, First New York Engineers, for his energy and efficiency in constructing the line of intrenchments on the line of the Eighteenth Army Corps—receiving a very severe wound in the discharge of his duty. He is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of New York for promotion.

The services of the officers and the men of the Engineer Corps, although not as conspicuous as those of some other troops, are quite as arduous, requiring constancy, courage, and zeal, and are fully appreciated.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. Charles J. Paine has received the thanks of Major-General Birney for the conduct of his division while temporarily acting with the Tenth Corps in the action of the 29th of September, near New Market.

Col. S. A. Duncan, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, commanding Third Brigade, in addition to other gallant services in the field heretofore, fell wounded near the enemy's works. He is recommended to the President for a brevet rank as brigadier-general.

Col. A. G. Draper, Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, commanded Second Brigade, carried his brigade in column of assault with fixed bayonets over the enemy's works through a double line of abatis, after severe resistance. For incessant attention to duty and gallantry in action, Colonel Draper is also recommended to brevet rank as brigadier-general.

Lieut. Col. G. W. Shurtleff, Fifth U. S. Colored Troops, gallantly led his regiment in the assault of the 29th, although at the commencement of the charge was shot through the wrist and again wounded until he

received a third and probably mortal wound close to the enemy's works. He has nobly earned his promotion and his commission as colonel of his regiment to date from the 29th of September, subject to the approval of the President.

First Lieut. Edwin C. Gaskill, Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, for distinguished gallantry in leading his men when shot through the arm, within twenty yards of the enemy's works. He is promoted to a captain.

First Lieut. Richard F. Andrews, Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, has honorable mention. Having been two months sick and relieved from duty he volunteered and charged with his command through the swamp where he received a wound. He is promoted to the rank of captain.

First Lieut. James B. Backup, Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, excused from duty for lameness, from which he could walk but a short distance, volunteered and charged with his command through the swamp, and received a wound through the breast. He is promoted to a captain.

Private James Gardiner,* Company I, Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, rushed in advance of his brigade, shot at a rebel officer, who was on the parapet cheering his men, and then ran him through with his bayonet. He will have a sergeant's warrant and a medal for gallant daring.

Capt. Phillip Weinmann, Sixth U. S. Colored Troops, commanding division of sharpshooters, and in charge of the skirmish line, is promoted to major for excellent conduct in managing his line of assault on the 29th of September.

Milton M. Holland,* sergeant-major, Fifth U. S. Colored Troops, commanding Company C; James H. Bronson,* first sergeant, commanding Company D; Robert Pinn,* first sergeant, commanding Company I, wounded; Powhatan Beaty,* first sergeant, commanding Company G, Fifth U. S. Colored Troops—all these gallant colored soldiers were left in command, all their company officers being killed or wounded, and led them gallantly and meritoriously through the day. For these services they have most honorable mention, and the commanding general will cause a special medal to be struck in honor of these gallant colored soldiers.

Capt. Peter Schlick, Thirty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, was the first of his regiment to enter the rebel works in the assault of the 29th, and is promoted to major.

Lieutenant Bancroft, Thirty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, has honorable mention for daring and endurance. Being shot through the hip at the swamp, he crawled forward on his hands and knees, waving his sword and cheering his men to follow.

Sergt. Maj. Martin Weisz, Thirty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, for courage, gallantry, and good conduct in the attack on New Market, is promoted to a lieutenant.

First Sergt. Edward Ratcliff,* Company C, Thirty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, thrown into command of his company by the death of the officer commanding, was the first enlisted man in the enemy's works, leading his company with great gallantry—for which he has a medal.

Private William H. Barnes,* Company C, Thirty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, among the very first to enter the rebel works, although himself previously wounded, has a medal for his gallantry.

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*Awarded a Medal of Honor.

Sergeant Harris,* Company B, Thirty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, has a medal for gallant conduct in the assault of the 29th instant.

First Lieut. J. Murray Hoag, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, although on the sick list, and suffering from the effects of fever, insisted on leading his company, until he fell, wounded in two places, at the enemy's line of abatis. He is promoted to captain.

Alfred B. Hilton,* color-sergeant, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, the bearer of the national colors, when the color-sergeant with the regimental standard fell beside him, seized the standard, and struggled forward with both colors, until disabled by a severe wound at the enemy's inner line of abatis, and when on the ground he showed that his thoughts were for the colors and not for himself. He has a special medal for gallantry, and will have his warrant as first sergeant.

Christian A. Fleetwood,* sergeant-major, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, when two color bearers had been shot down, seized the national colors and bore them nobly through the fight. He has a special medal for gallant conduct.

Charles Veal,* color bearer Company D, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops, after two bearers of the regimental color had been shot down, seized it close to the enemy's works and bore it through the remainder of the action. He has a medal for gallantry, and will have the warrant of color-sergeant.

Lieut. N. H. Edgerton, adjutant Sixth U. S. Colored Troops, when the color bearer was shot down, seized the colors and carried them forward, even after his own hand was pierced by a bullet which severed the flag-staff. He is promoted to the rank of captain.

Corpl. Miles James,* Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, after having his arm so badly mutilated that immediate amputation was necessary, loaded and discharged his piece with one hand, and urged his men forward; this within thirty yards of the enemy's works. He has a medal and a sergeant's warrant.

First Sergt. William Davis, Company E, Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, has honorable mention and a medal for gallantry.

Sergt. Samuel Gilchrist, Company K, Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, showed great bravery and gallantry in commanding his company after his officers were killed. He has a medal for gallantry.

Alexander Kelly,* first sergeant Company F, Sixth U. S. Colored Troops, gallantly seized the colors, which had fallen near the enemy's inner line of abatis, raised them, and rallied the men, at a time of confusion and a place of the greatest possible danger. He has a medal for his gallantry.

Sergeant Elsbury, first sergeant Company G, Sixth U. S. Colored Troops, has a medal for bravery and remarkable coolness during the engagement of September 29, 1864.

Corpl. William Williams, Company K, Sixth U. S. Colored Troops, has a medal for bravery and remarkable coolness during the engagement of September 29, 1864.

Maj. J. B. Cook, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops, commanding his regiment as a skirmish line, behaved most gallantly himself and managed his men with marked ability in the assault on the enemy's lines near New Market. In the attempt of the enemy to take Fort Harrison he unfortunately fell wounded through his utter neglect of personal safety. He is promoted to lieutenant-colonel.

Capt. Robert Dollard, Second U. S. Colored Cavalry, acting as field officer and in charge of the skirmish line in the assault on New Market,

*Awarded a Medal of Honor.

September 29, inspired his command by his great personal bravery, coolness, and ability, until he fell severely wounded near the enemy's main line. He is promoted to major.

First Lieut. Henry Peterson, Second U. S. Colored Cavalry, is promoted to a captaincy for gallantry and ability in conducting his company at New Market on the 29th of September, and for meritorious conduct in field and camp.

Sergt. George Honesty, Company I, Second Colored Cavalry; First Sergt. Isaac Harris, Company F; Sergt. Gilbert Harris, Company F; Sergt. Reuben Parker, Company F; First Sergt. Randolph Driver, Company I, have honorable mention for conspicuous bravery on the skirmish line in the assault on the enemy's works September 29. Each has a medal.

The regiments of this division having behaved with great gallantry in several actions, earning thereby the right to official notice, it is ordered that there be inscribed upon the colors of the First and Tenth U. S Colored Troops the name Wilson's Wharf, that being the place where they defeated the cavalry of Fitzhugh Lee.

That the Second U. S. Colored Cavalry have inscribed the word Suffolk on their colors, for their conduct in the battle of March 9, near that place.

That the First, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops have the word Petersburg inscribed on their banners, for their gallantry in capturing the line of works and the enemy's guns on the 15th of June, 1864, at that place.

That the First, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Twenty-second, Thirty-sixth, Thirty-seventh, Thirty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, and the Second U. S. Colored Cavalry have the words New Market Heights inscribed upon their colors, for their gallantry in carrying the enemy's works at that point on the 29th of September.

The quartermaster is directed to furnish a new stand of colors to each of these regiments, with the inscription ordered.

TENTH ARMY CORPS.

FIRST DIVISION.

First Brigade.

First Sergt. William Hedges, Company I, Sixty-second Ohio, is commended for cool and courageous conduct while in command of his company on the reconnaissance toward Richmond September 29. He is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of Ohio for promotion.

First Sergt. John R. Murray, Company G, Sixty-second Ohio, is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of Ohio for promotion for good conduct, having long been in command of his company.

Second Brigade.

Col. Joseph C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire, commanding Second Brigade, First Division, is recommended for brevet for his gallant and soldierly conduct since the campaign commenced, and for the skillful and able manner in which his brigade was led to the rebel works within two miles of Richmond on the 1st instant.

First Sergt. William H. Haynes, Company G, Seventh Connecticut, is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of Connecticut for promotion for marked ability and attention to his duties as acting lieutenant.

First Sergt. Benjamin A. Hill, Company A, Seventh Connecticut, is honorably mentioned for gallantry on the skirmish line on the 29th of September in the reconnaissance on Richmond. He is appointed a second lieutenant in the U. S. Colored Troops.

Sergt. Lewis A. Cook, Company E, Seventh Connecticut, for gallantry on skirmish line and zeal in performance of duty, is recommended for a medal.

First Lieut. Jonathan H. Edgerly, Third New Hampshire, for gallantry in conducting the skirmish line on the 29th of September, as well as on the reconnaissance toward Richmond, is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of New Hampshire for promotion.

Sergt. Maj. George A. Gesner, Company K, Sixth Connecticut, is recommended for promotion to His Excellency the Governor of Connecticut for attention to his duties, and is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

First Lieut. Ferdinand Davis, Seventh New Hampshire, and acting aide on Brigadier-General Hawley's staff, is recommended for gallantry.

Sergt. William Tilton,* Company C, Seventh New Hampshire, in command of pioneers, has special mention for gallantry, and is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

Sergt. Henry F. W. Little,* Company D, Seventh New Hampshire, for gallantry on the skirmish line on the reconnaissance toward Richmond, is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal. He is appointed first lieutenant in U. S. Colored Troops.

Sergt. Frank Robey [George F. Robie],* Company D, Seventh New Hampshire, for gallantry on skirmish line, is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

Sergt. John A. Coburn, Company H, Seventh New Hampshire, was in command of his company in the reconnaissance toward Richmond, and is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of New Hampshire for promotion.

Sergt. George P. Dow,* Company C, Seventh New Hampshire, was in command of his company in the reconnaissance toward Richmond and behaved with gallantry. He is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

Third Brigade.

Col. F. A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts, for gallant and meritorious services through the campaign, has been recommended by the commanding general for promotion.

SECOND DIVISION.

First Brigade.

Corpl. Ebenezer Skellie,* Company D, One hundred and twelfth New York, took the colors of his regiment when the color-sergeant fell, and carried them through the first charge. At the second charge, after all

* Awarded a Medal of Honor.

the color guard were killed or wounded, he carried the colors to the enemy's works, where he fell wounded. He has a medal and is recommended to the President, because of his wounds, to promotion in the Veteran Reserve Corps.

Second Brigade.

Col. N. M. Curtis, commanding Second Brigade, for his zealous and untiring efforts to make his brigade efficient, and for the manner in which he led it in action, is commended by his corps commander, and is recommended to the President for promotion by brevet.

First Lieuts. John J. Fitzgibbon, Company B, and James Cox, Company C, Forty-seventh New York, have honorable mention for gallantry, in both assaults on the enemy's works, and are recommended to His Excellency the Governor of New York for promotion.

Corpl. William F. Noonan, Company F, Forty-seventh New York, when the color bearer was shot, seized the colors and bore them through the fight, for which act of courage and daring and meritorious conduct he is appointed second lieutenant in colored troops.

First Sergt. John Curry, Company E, Forty-seventh New York, is promoted to first lieutenant in U. S. Colored Troops, for gallant behavior in the assault and rallying his men.

First Sergt. George W. Boerckel, Company F, Forty-seventh New York, for gallantry and coolness in assault, is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of New York for promotion.

First Sergt. Andrew Hamilton, Company H, Forty-seventh New York, for gallantry and coolness in the assault, is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of New York for promotion.

Sergt. Richard Gosson,* Company K, Forty-seventh New York, fell dead while planting the colors of his regiment on the enemy's works. He is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal, to be sent to his family.

First Lieut. J. Wainwright, commanding Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania, has honorable mention for the gallant manner in which he conducted the regiment during the engagement.

Second Lieut. William H. Eves, Company G, Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania, behaved with especial gallantry in both assaults, and is recommended for promotion in his regiment to His Excellency the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Sergt. William H. Martin, Company A, Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania, commanded his company in both assaults, and led his men with bravery and admirable order in the assault September 29, for which he has most honorable mention, and is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of Pennsylvania for promotion to first lieutenant.

Corpl. David S. Harry, Company B, Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania, is mentioned for special gallantry in both assaults of the 29th of September. He is appointed second lieutenant in U. S. Colored Troops.

Private William McCarty, Company D, Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania, is honorably mentioned for special gallantry, bearing his colors in advance of his regiment in the absence of the color-sergeant, is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

First Lieut. A. Lippincott, Forty-eighth New York, has special mention for gallant conduct in both assaults, and is recommended for promotion in his regiment to His Excellency the Governor of New York.

* Awarded a Medal of Honor.

Color Sergt. Tom Dawson, Forty-eighth New York, for coolness and courage, is recommended for promotion to His Excellency the Governor of New York.

Capt. J. M. McDonald, Company H, Forty-seventh New York, is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of New York for promotion for the manner in which he conducted his regiment after taking command, the colonel being wounded.

Lieut. Col. C. R. MacDonald, Forty-seventh New York, is commended for coolness and bravery in leading his command on the enemy's works, and is recommended for promotion to His Excellency the Governor of New York.

Lieut. Col. J. S. Littell, of the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania, is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of Pennsylvania for promotion for gallantry and judgment in leading his command.

Third Brigade.

Capt. Robert J. Gray, Ninth Maine, was especially conspicuous for gallantry, and received his death wound while gallantly leading his regiment to the charge on Battery Gilmer.

Capt. Billings Brastow took command in the same charge after the death of Captain Gray, and was killed while in like gallant discharge of his duty.

Capt. J. C. Beal then took command of the regiment, led it within thirty yards of Battery Gilmer, with great gallantry and courage.

Lieut. George S. Colbath, Ninth Maine, is recommended to the Governor of Maine for promotion for leading his command in the same charge, although suffering from an open wound received at Petersburg, and being again severely wounded.

Capt. B. N. Smith, One hundred and sixty-ninth New York, for distinguished gallantry while in command of his regiment during the assault of the 29th of September, is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of New York for promotion.

Capt. J. H. Lawrence, commanding Thirteenth Indiana, being wounded in the first assault, still remained in command until ordered to the rear, is mentioned for gallantry and good conduct, and recommended to His Excellency the Governor of Indiana for promotion.

Lieut. S. C. F. Smith, Ninth Maine, who, not having recovered from a wound received August 19, 1864, yet remained with his company till ordered to the rear, for zeal and efficient courage has honorable mention, and is recommended to His Excellency the Governor of Maine for promotion.

Private Julius B. Koenig, One hundred and fifteenth New York, orderly at brigade headquarters, who carried the brigade flag with extraordinary zealousness in the hottest parts of the action, is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal for his gallantry.

Lieut. Solomon J. Watson, Ninth Maine, received his death wound from gallant daring in the endeavor to get the colors of his regiment from the field.

Color Sergt. C. L. F. Howe, Ninth Maine, conspicuous for daring, is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

Corpl. Z. Piche, Company D, Ninth Maine, carried one of the flags for a long time after he was wounded, is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

Private Thomas Belcher,* Company I, Ninth Maine, has honorable mention and will be made color-sergeant of his regiment. He took a guidon from the hands of Private Parker, who was mortally wounded, and carried it nearer Battery Gilmer than any other man; is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

Private B. E. Preble, Company B, Ninth Maine, who carried the flag, the color-sergeant being wounded, is recommended to the Secretary of War for a medal.

THIRD DIVISION.

First Lieut. Waldo B. Ryder, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops; First Lieut. Joseph E. Lockwood, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops; First Lieut. Sumner H. Warren, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, are promoted to be captains, for meritorious conduct during their connection with the regiment.

Second Lieut. Alpheus K. Long, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops; Second Lieut. Charles H. C. Brown, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops; Second Lieut. Russell Hall, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, are promoted to first lieutenants, for meritorious services during their connection with the regiment.

Lieut. Col. Samuel C. Armstrong, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, is promoted for gallant and meritorious services at Deep Bottom and Fussell's Mill, on the 14th of August, 1864, as colonel of the Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, vice Col. Loren Burritt, who has failed to be mustered on account of physical disability.

First Lieut. Thomas Young, Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, is promoted to be captain, for meritorious services.

Second Lieut. William H. Brooks, Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, is promoted to first lieutenant.

First Lieut. Haskell M. Phelps is promoted to be captain in the Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, for meritorious services during his connection with the regiment.

Second Lieut. Edward E. Fairchild, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, is promoted to first lieutenant for meritorious services during his connection with the regiment.

Second Lieuts. Edward Coe and John Bishop, Twenty-ninth [Connecticut] Colored Volunteers, are appointed first lieutenants, for uniform attention to duty.

First Sergt. Oscar Engleblom, Company G, Third New Hampshire, is appointed second lieutenant, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, to fill a vacancy.

Maj. George E. Wagner, Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, is specially mentioned for gallantry, and is appointed lieutenant-colonel, vice Lieutenant-Colonel Armstrong, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops.

Capt. Oscar E. Pratt, Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, has honorable mention for meritorious conduct, and is appointed major in the Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, vice Major Wagner, promoted.

Capts. Julius A. Weiss, Thomas McCarty, First Lieuts. George R. Sherman, David S. Mack, Second Lieuts. Sylvester Eler, J. Ferguson, R. M. Spinney, of the Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, are all entitled to the highest praise and commendation for their gallantry and good conduct in the assault on Fort Gilmer, for which they are not now promoted, being either killed or in the hands of the enemy.

* Awarded a Medal of Honor.

The commanding general is quite conscious that in his endeavors to put on record the gallant deeds of the officers and soldiers of the Army of the James, he has almost of necessity, because of the imperfection of reports, omitted many deserving of mention; yet, as these gallant men will on other occasions equally distinguish themselves, they can then take their due place in their country's history.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 149. } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 11, 1864.

1. Capt. Adrian Terry, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, is relieved from duty with the First Division, and will report for duty as acting aide-de-camp to the brevet major-general commanding the corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brevet Major-General Terry:

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieut., Second U. S. Sharpshooters, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRAHAM,
Commanding Army Gun-boats, Point of Rocks:

Please send down one of your boats to the Northern Neck, opposite Smith's Neck Light; land there and seize some eight or ten of the most reputable citizens you can find and bring them to me. State that they are taken as hostages for J. R. McDonald, captain of the light-ship, and six men who went on shore for water.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *October 12, 1864.*

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

The disposable recruits at Fort Columbus have been assigned to the Seventh Infantry with a view to that regiment being sent to the Army of the Potomac, to relieve that one of the old regiments of infantry most in need of recruits. Should this meet with your approbation, please designate the regiment you wish returned. Please inform me, also, whether you wish it to await the arrival of the Seventh.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 12, 1864—12 m.*
(Received 2.05 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington:*

I will send a regiment of regulars immediately to take the place of the Seventh. Please order the latter here, without waiting the arrival of one to relieve it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 12, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

Seventy-five deserters from the enemy came into General Butler's lines, north of the James, on Sunday; thirty-five more yesterday and thirty-three to-day. This is in addition to what came in on other parts of the line, of which I have no report. There were other deserters each of these days.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 12, 1864—9 p. m.*
(Received 1.40 p. m. 13th.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

The Seventeenth U. S. Infantry has been designated to relieve the Seventh in New York. This regiment will leave here to-morrow.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 12, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The enemy opened his batteries about 8 p. m. last evening on Hancock's front, and was replied to by ours. The firing lasted for an hour. No casualties reported on our side. A deserter came into Hancock's lines last night and reported the completion of a mine on his front. Measures had been taken to prepare for the reported mine and to detect it. Another deserter reported the relieving of Wise's brigade, Johnson's division, by Harris' brigade, Mahone's division, hitherto in reserve. Gregg's reconnaissance yesterday proceeded as far as the crossing of Rowanty Creek, within three miles of Stony Creek Depot. At Rowanty Creek the enemy's infantry was found in such force as not to permit the farther advance of the reconnoitering party. Fourteen prisoners, including one commissioned officer, were taken by this reconnaissance. From them and citizens no information of any large body of the enemy at Stony Creek could be obtained. From refugees and contrabands from Sussex it is learned the enemy have at Stony Creek a regiment of infantry and a battery of artillery, with some cavalry. These people state that it was reported forces from North Carolina were concentrating at Weldon; numbers and organizations unknown.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 12, 1864—10 p. m.*

General MEADE:

I understand that it has been discovered that the enemy have undermined Fort Sedgwick. Do you not think it advisable to intrench in rear of it and let the enemy explode their mine and attack?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 12, 1864—11 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

I have received no information of the enemy's having certainly undermined Fort Sedgwick. The only information in reference to the enemy's mining operations was contained in a telegram from Major-General Hancock, the substance of which was transmitted in my report this a. m., to the effect that a deserter said the enemy had completed a mine on his front. General Hancock said the deserter had been detained that he might identify the spot. An engineer officer was sent to take the necessary steps to meet the contingency. Since then I have heard nothing from General Hancock. Some time ago it was reported the enemy was mining under Fort Sedgwick. At that time a line was made in the rear and every preparation made to let the enemy blow it up. These still exist. At the time it was considered not likely, from the conformation of the ground, that a mine could be placed there, owing to the distance to be galleried. Since then our pickets have been considerably advanced, and we command all the ground in front for 200 yards, and I should think could readily detect the existence of a mine in that locality. I will, however, refer your dispatch to Major-General Hancock, with directions to make the preparations indicated.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Twenty-sixth Mississippi and Fifty-fifth North Carolina, of Davis' brigade, Heth's division, came into the Ninth Corps lines last evening. They are conscripts and can give no information. Two prisoners of war were taken on the Ninth Corps front last evening from the Forty-sixth North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, Heth's division. They state that their brigade is on the extreme right of their infantry line, but cannot locate it nearer than one mile and a half this side of the Boydton plank road and six miles from Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Fourteen prisoners of war, including one commissioned officer, first lieutenant, have been forwarded from the Second Cavalry Division. Four of them are regularly detailed scouts belonging to General Butler's division of cavalry. They were taken near Proctor's Cross-Roads. Eight of them are drivers and guard of a wagon train (belonging to Chambliss' cavalry brigade) that was going down in

Sussex County for potatoes. The commissioned officer is a first lieutenant of the Ninth Virginia Infantry, Pickett's division, and was returning from furlough. They gave no information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following is the result of the observations made from the several signal stations to-day: A body of about 1,200 infantry appeared on the road in the vicinity of the fort near and west of the Weldon railroad. They moved about half a mile in a northwesterly direction and then turned westward into the woods, no doubt returning to camp from some duty along the lines. A small body of troops, perhaps 100, passed into the city from the vicinity of Cemetery Hill this p. m.

The following intercepted message may be of some profit; it passed through the line on north bank of the Appomattox:

Colonel B.:

I have established an observatory in front of General Steuart's brigade in the most commanding view I could find. I observed wagons constantly moving to Fort Harrison. A large flock of beef-cattle are grazing above Dutch Gap. A large number of boats are moving up and down on the James River. From the rock at Drewry's house, I noticed this morning a large decrease in the tents in the woods to the left of open space to our left of Cobb's. No other change.

S.,
Commanding.

(Same to A. B.)

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 276. } *October 12, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

7. In compliance with instructions received from headquarters Armies of the United States, the Seventeenth Regiment U. S. Infantry will proceed, with as little delay as practicable, to the city of New York and report to the superintendent of the recruiting service at that place. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864—9 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

No change has occurred in my lines since last report. The enemy are reported as having built a new work in front of No. 9. The artillery firing last night was inaugurated by the enemy, as it was the night before. A deserter from Finegan's brigade reports that a mine is about done under one of our works. From his description I think he means Fort Stedman. I understand listening galleries, &c., were run out from that front long since, but this deserter says he was detailed to work on this mine about three weeks ago and the gallery was then 260 yards long. Yesterday, he says, he saw a workman from there who said it was about ready. I have retained the man until I can send him down on the line, as he says he has located the place in his mind by certain landmarks.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 12, 1864—11 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I forward you a dispatch just received.* I have informed Lieutenant-General Grant I have no information of any mining at Fort Sedgwick. Your telegram upon the subject said the deserter had been detained to identify the locality, since which nothing has been received at these headquarters. If it is the case that Fort Sedgwick is the locality indicated I would state that some time ago, when a similar report was made, Major-General Warren prepared a second line in rear, to be held in the event of an explosion. Listening galleries were also sunk in different directions. At that time it was considered the distance the enemy would have to run their main gallery rendered the existence of a mine there improbable. Now our picket-line is so much farther advanced there should be no difficulty in detecting a mine, if one exists. I have ordered Major Michler to run a gallery in front of Fort Sedgwick its whole length. You will please to have the line in rear arranged for occupation, and make such preparations in conformity with the wishes of the lieutenant-general commanding as are best suited to meet the emergency anticipated.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 258. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va., October 12, 1864.

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4. Col. G. N. Macy, Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, First Brigade, Second Division, will report without delay to Brig. Gen. N. A. Miles, U. S. Volunteers, commanding First Division, for assignment to the command of a brigade.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Grant to Meade, 10 p. m., p. 176.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

I have the honor to report that yesterday in front of Batteries Nos. 13 and 17 the working parties of the enemy were observed strengthening their second line. They were opened on whenever they showed themselves. At about 7 p. m. the enemy opened a heavy fire from their mortar batteries in front of Fort Stedman. This was replied to by our mortars with great vigor, the fire continuing about one hour. At 9 a. m. the enemy opened on our picket-line in front of Fort Davis with artillery. Our guns and mortars replied. The firing extended as far to the right as Fort Morton. This ceased in about thirty minutes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

(Copy to Capt. John N. Craig, assistant adjutant-general, artillery headquarters, Army of the Potomac.)

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864.

Maj. A. F. BROOKER,
Commanding Siege Battery, Artillery Brigade, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I wish you would put two more 8-inch mortars in Battery No. 20. The enemy are shelling that part of the line severely, and those now there do not seem to be able to prevent its continuance. I would like to see you to-night or to-morrow morning if you can come up. Two men were killed in Fort Sedgwick by the enemy's mortars last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General DE TROBRIAND, U. S. Volunteers:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the corps leaves this morning to visit City Point, to return this evening, and requests that during his absence you assume command of the corps.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 12, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

General CRAWFORD:

The commanding general directs that you send in the names of any officers of your command who fell in the recent engagement at Peebles' farm, with a view to the naming of the new redoubts.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Parke.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 5TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 73. } *October 12, 1864.*

1. The Tenth U. S. Infantry is relieved from duty in the First Brigade of this division and will report at these headquarters for duty as provost-guard.

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By command of Brigadier-General Ayres:

C. E. LA MOTTE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General BAXTER,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that the Nineteenth Regiment Indiana Volunteers be relieved at daylight to-morrow and ordered to report to the headquarters of the Second Army Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

All quiet along our lines. The enemy busy strengthening their line. I send two prisoners Forty-sixth North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, captured on the vedette line, and two deserters Fifty-fifth North Carolina and Twenty-sixth Mississippi, Davis' brigade.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:
(For Secretary of War, Washington.)

Col. John I. Curtin, Forty-fifth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, has heretofore been recommended, both for a brevet and promotion. No more deserving appointment could be made. He is an invaluable brigade commander. Unless promoted or brevetted he will lose the command of his brigade by the return of a senior colonel, who has been absent from duty for twelve out of the last fifteen months, and is not as well fitted for the position.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded to the Secretary of War, with recommendation that Colonel Curtin be promoted by brevet.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 12, 1864—10.40 a. m. (Sent 11.10 a. m.)

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The firing last night was on General Hancock's front. It was commenced by the opening of the enemy's batteries and our batteries replied. The firing was without results.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 12, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that yesterday evening the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Maj. G. F. McCabe commanding, left this point on a reconnaissance toward Stony Creek. The regiment has just returned, having proceeded as far as the crossing of the Rowanty and three miles from Stony Creek. The crossing of the Rowanty was defended by the infantry, so that the regiment did not attempt a farther advance. Thirteen prisoners, including two commissioned officers, were captured; also two Government wagons destroyed, but the animals brought in. The commanding officer of the regiment could not ascertain from the citizens or negroes that the large infantry force reported had arrived at Stony Creek. All the information obtained would indicate that citizens were not aware of the arrival of General Whiting. Major McCabe's [report] will be forwarded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 12, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following dispatch just received and forwarded for the information of the lieutenant-general:

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
October 12, 1864—9.30 a. m

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

GENERAL: The reports from the picket on the Darby road are, that the enemy is very busy fortifying on that road, near to our pickets. The officer on picket thinks they are building a fort at a point less than half a mile from the old line of intrenchments. The fact that no deserters or refugees have come in yesterday or to-day on my line indicates that there is some truth in the report of the people living on the Charles City road that the enemy have a close picket-line between that road and the Long Bridge road. A few of the enemy showed themselves in front of Fussell's Mill last night, but left without any other demonstration. The new road through the swamp will be finished to-day.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 12, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I think it advisable to send out a strong reconnaissance of infantry and cavalry to drive the enemy from the work they are doing on the Central road. Such a reconnaissance should not go far enough to endanger their being cut off, however. Weitzel should at the same time hold as much force as he can, ready to move to the support of the reconnoitering party if attacked by a superior force.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 12, 1864—1.25 p. m. (Received 2 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

In compliance with your instructions in regard to the reconnaissance, orders have been issued which went out at 12.30 to-day, copies of which I will forward. We are delayed moving at once by the fact of a flag of truce being out. We shall be all ready to move if the flag of truce returns in season.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 12, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have the honor to inclose for your information copies of orders* sent to Major-Generals Terry and Weitzel preliminary to the movement you have directed. We are waiting return of flag of truce to move.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 12, 1864—4 p. m. (Received 4.35 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I am all ready to move, but the enemy still detain my flag on the picket-line in front of Battery Harrison. I suppose that having moved my troops into position is all I can do till flag returns. I am in doubt whether to move to-night; it is so late.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 12, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

My flag is still out. I have sent for it. It is raining, and I submit to you whether any movement best be made till morning. Am all ready.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

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* See Butler to Terry and Weitzel, 12.30 p. m., pp. 186, 191.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 12, 1864—5 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatches received. Postpone the movement; it is now too late.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

OCTOBER 12, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

There are at City Point about 300 unorganized recruits for the One hundred and forty-second New York. They have been some days at City Point; have been coaxed by those who desire to get them. The captains that have been commissioned have deserted them and cannot be found. They were ordered to the One hundred and forty-second Regiment by the War Department. They have elected officers and are a mob. If they can be sent to the regiment to which they belong they will be assigned to good companies with good officers, and will be serviceable in a fortnight. Otherwise, they are worse than useless for months. We have suffered so much from these new organizations rendering men useless that I trust where there is no organization we shall not wait for a mob to make one. Please order them to me and I will send for them to-morrow morning.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

OCTOBER 12, 1864—7.30 p. m. (Received 8 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

If you see no objection, I will order that movement at daybreak to-morrow, so as to strike the enemy's pickets by sunrise, giving the men their coffee before they start.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 12, 1864—8.10 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I fully approve of your making the movement ordered for this afternoon early in the morning.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 4.55 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

I have withdrawn my flag of truce. I communicated with the rebel pickets and sent your letter of introduction to General Ewell. No reply has been received yet, and I shall remain at Weitzel's until I hear from them.

G. A. KENSEL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 12, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Brigadier-General PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General, City Point, Va.:

Please send me under guard, on board a boat, 150 of the most considerable of the prisoners captured by us in your hands, especially of the local defense, including privates Henly and McRay, for the purpose of being put to work in Dutch Gap, in retaliation for our soldiers now at work in the rebel trenches near Fort Gilmer.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPRING HILL, *October 12, 1864—12 m.*

Captain CLUM,
Chief Signal Officer:

Three passenger and two freight cars, all empty, toward Petersburg. A regular train.

G. F. YOUNG,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

SPRING HILL, *October 12, 1864—3 p. m.*
(Received 4 p. m.)

Captain CLUM,
Chief Signal Officer:

A train of five passenger-cars, with passengers, toward Richmond. A regular train.

G. F. YOUNG,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

SPRING HILL, *October 12, 1864—3.35 p. m.*
(Received 4 p. m.)

Captain CLUM:

Five freight-cars, contents unknown, and three passenger-cars, with passengers, toward Richmond. A regular train.

G. F. YOUNG,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *October 12, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy opened on three separate occasions to-day, firing rapidly, and at sundown, as though anxious to improve their opportunity. Returned their fire promptly, and believe effectually. Moved the 100-pounder last night without trouble or accident.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 12, 1864—12.30 p. m. (Received 12.40 p. m.)

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

You will take two divisions of your corps, preferably the First and Third, if their places on your line can be spared, and, in conjunction with General Kautz's cavalry, you will make a reconnaissance in force and drive away, if practicable, the enemy from the works they are now building on the Darbytown (or Central) road. General Weitzel has been ordered to support your line if necessary. Take care that your forces are not cut off. I presume you will find about 6,000 of the enemy's veteran troops—Early and Hoke's divisions—in your front. You will push the enemy into his old line of fortifications, but not pursue farther unless you see such indications of giving way as will justify it, of which you will keep me advised. You will communicate this order to General Kautz, that he may co-operate with you. Make all your dispositions as rapidly as possible, and inform me when you are ready to move and I will give the order.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I shall take the First and Third Divisions, but there is one regiment of the First Division, the One hundred and ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, which is so very raw that I think it had best be left behind; it would do more harm than good in the open field.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The Second Division will not be sufficient to occupy more than its own place in the intrenchments and the place of the First Division. I think that General Weitzel should occupy the position to be vacated by the Third Division. If he is to do so, I will move Birney out as he moves in. If he will then have any additional force to spare I would suggest that it should be massed on the New Market road, so as to be ready to meet any movement on my left after I have moved out.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 12, 1864—1.50 p. m.

Forwarded to General Weitzel for his information, with directions to occupy the line left by Birney and to watch the New Market road.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 12, 1864—1.55 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

General Weitzel is ordered to occupy the line left by Birney.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864—2.10 p. m. (Received 2.20 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

If General Weitzel moves but one brigade from his own line, it should occupy the ground now held by Birney. If he moves another brigade I would like to have it at the right of the old intrenchments ready to move out.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Sent for information of Major-General Weitzel. Can you do both?*

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864—2.30 p. m. (Received 2.40 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I have arranged with General Kautz to move out and cover the right of the movement occupying the ground between the Darbytown and Charles City road, and trying to find the enemy's left. I shall move Ames' division out till its right rests on or just beyond the Darbytown road, and then move up parallel with the road. Birney I intend to put in at about Kell's house to try to turn the enemy's left. Ames' division, reduced by his details, pickets, and the One hundred and ninety-ninth Pennsylvania and the One hundredth New York at Deep Bottom, will be about 3,100 strong. Birney's, reduced by his pickets and the absence of his strongest regiment at Deep Bottom, will be about 1,600 strong. I shall, therefore, need very much one of Weitzel's brigades to go with me. I take three batteries.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 12, 1864—3.10 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

I forward General Weitzel's dispatch* for your information. I do not see that he can do any more than he has done. Your field return of this morning shows, in the First Division a total of 4,488; the Third

* See Weitzel to Butler, 2.45 p. m., p. 192.

Division, 2,970 men; making 7,458 men in these two divisions. Can it be that you have on picket the difference between 4,700 men and 7,400? Of course, the One hundredth New York, if at Deep Bottom, is not in your field return, nor Birney's regiment, if it is away.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 4.05 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: I was mistaken as to the One hundredth New York. It is not on the field return, but General Birney's regiment at Deep Bottom is on his field return and is about 800 strong. As I said before, I do not consider it prudent to attempt to use the One hundred and ninety-ninth Pennsylvania. I will do so if you desire that I should.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 12, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

Four regiments of Pickett's division are up the New Market road in rear of local defenses as reserves. They have been there all the time. They are the only troops of Pickett's on this line. If you find them on your right, you may be sure there is nobody to move on New Market.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864—3.25 p. m. (Received 3.50 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: My troops are ready to move.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 12, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

Dispatch announcing your readiness for movement received at 3.50 p. m. Flag is still on the picket-line.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

OCTOBER 12, 1864—4.35 p. m.

Major-General TERRY:

At 4 p. m. I sent you word that my flag of truce was detained by enemy on the picket-line. I cannot move till that comes back.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

OCTOBER 12, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General TERRY:

Postpone the movement; it is now too late. Hold all ready for further orders. Of course, your command will be informed that you are about to cross the James. Make your men as comfortable as possible. Notify Kautz.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
In the Field, October 12, 1864. (Received 7.03 p. m.)

Brigadier-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

You have Hoke's and Field's divisions in your front, numbering about 4,500 men, and four regiments of Pickett's division, numbering about 600 men, are in reserve in front of Weitzel's line.

By direction of commanding general:

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 10.40 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

The following has been received from the chief signal officer, Tenth Army Corps:

STATION OF OBSERVATION,
October 12, 1864.

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, TENTH ARMY CORPS:

I have this evening opened a station of observation in a tree in front of the left of the Tenth Corps. Can see part of New Market road within the enemy's lines. There are three field fortifications immediately in front of the station, mounting in all four guns—two on the work to the right, one on the center work, and one on the left-hand work; all Parrott guns, of either 20-pounder or 30-pounder caliber. Breast-works connect these forts, and from the last-mentioned one a double line of breast-works is visible, and on which strong fatigue parties are at work. Will give fuller details as soon as weather clears up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL BRODIE,
First Lieut., Signal Corps, U. S. Army, Comdg. Signal Detachment, 10th Army Corps.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 12, 1864.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

You will move Ames' and Birney's divisions upon the enemy near the brick house on the Darbytown road with vigor, so as to possess

yourself of their line now being intrenched on that road. General Kautz will move with you, turning the enemy's left if possible. Your movement should be so early as to strike the enemy by sunrise. General Weitzel will be notified of your movement, and will hold as far as the New Market road. You will observe the general directions as for the movement intended this afternoon. Keep me advised as often as possible of your movement.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864.

GENERAL: The movement is suspended for the present, but be ready for further orders. Of course, the commands will be led to infer we are to cross the James. Make your men as comfortable as possible.

Respectfully, yours,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To Generals Ames and Birney.)

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864.

The movement proposed for this p. m. will take place to-morrow morning. General Ames' division will move out to and across the Darbytown road, forming in the open ground beyond, and moving up parallel, or nearly so, with that road, will attack the enemy and endeavor to find and turn the left of their intrenchments. General Birney's division will form on this side of the Darbytown road, prepared to advance at the same time with General Ames, his skirmishers on the same line with General Ames' skirmishers. Colonel Curtis' brigade will move out to the Kell house, forming line facing the enemy, his center at the house. General Kautz proposes to move to the right of the Darbytown road, covering General Ames' right, and he will endeavor to drive in the enemy between that road and the Charles City road. He also proposes to send a column up the Charles City road, dislodge the enemy there, and, if possible, take them in reverse down toward the Darbytown road. General Ames will take great care not to extend so far to the right as to leave a dangerous gap between his left and General Birney's right. The batteries will report to General Kautz at Four-Mile Church, on the New Market road, and will follow his column until they reach the Darbytown road, when they will halt and report to the division commanders to which they are assigned. The battery not assigned will report to the chief of artillery, who will be near the Johnson house on the last-named road. The troops will move at 4 a. m. promptly. Corps headquarters will at first be at the Johnson house.

By command of Major-General Terry:

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., October 12, 1864.

Col. F. B. POND,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: I am directed by the general commanding to order that you will hold your command in readiness to move at any moment. "The movement is suspended for the present." Also, make your men as comfortable as possible.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
FRED. A. SAWYER,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Similar instructions to Colonel Abbott, Second Brigade.)

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 12, 1864.

Brigade commanders will have their commands in readiness for a movement, at an hour's notice, across the James River or elsewhere. In the meantime baggage of the regiments will be collected and the men made as comfortable as circumstances will permit.

By command of Brig. Gen. William Birney:
M. BAILEY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 12, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL:

I forward to you for your information orders* sent to General Terry, also orders* from the lieutenant-general to me. You will take such measures as you may be able to support General Terry's movement. I will advise you of the moment he moves.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864—1 p. m. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The lookout of General Marston reports that a force of the enemy's troops, with three wagons, just moved to their rear; no artillery.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

[General WEITZEL:]

How large a force of the enemy?

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

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* See Butler to Terry, 12.30 p. m., p. 186, and Grant to Butler, beginning—I think it advisable, p. 183.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 1.40 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

The private on the lookout said about a brigade, but I doubt this very much. I judge the strength by the wagons.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 2 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

In what manner shall I support Terry? I have one brigade in readiness. Shall I relieve a part of his line or hold the brigade subject to his order?

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Sent for the information of General Terry. Which does he desire?*

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
[*October*] *12, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

I have investigated that report about the column of the enemy which marched to the rear. It left their line at 11 o'clock. There were with it 300 mounted men and three wagons; no artillery. There was but one interval in the column. It moved straight to the rear, then halted a little to our left, and disappeared in the woods. I imagine it to be about two regiments, say, at furthest, 500 men.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864—2.45 p. m. (Received 3.12 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I have already ordered the disposition General Terry suggested, and you directed in your previous dispatches. General Marston, with his two brigades, will take up Birney's line to New Market road, and if he has anything left mass it there. One of General Heckman's brigades will take up the line vacated by Marston. This makes my lines over four miles and a half long, and this is just as much as I can do. Any change now would delay and confuse.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

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* See Terry to Butler, 2.10 p. m., p. 187.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 3.40 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I desire to notify you that the movement of the troops is going on while the flag of truce still remains on the picket-line, not having been dismissed by the enemy.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 3.30 p. m.)

General WEITZEL:

I am inclined to think that force moving to the rear to be the deserters and prisoners of the various regiments that were in the local defense. Our information is that they were to be taken out and sent to their regiments as soon as they could be spared. Has anything been heard of Kensel yet? If we do not move soon we can't to-night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 3.40 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Kensel is still on the enemy's picket-line with flag. My troops were in motion an hour ago.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 12, 1864—3.55 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

Terry is ready to move, but will not move until direction from me. The moment the flag of truce returns let me know. I suppose you refer to the movements of our troops. No offensive movements will be made until the flag returns.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 4.10 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Shall I send for Kensel to return? My troops are all in position on New Market road.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

OCTOBER 12, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL:

Colonel Kensel has now been waiting four hours. Send messenger to him to return, leaving his papers in any officer's hands to whom they may have been intrusted.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

OCTOBER 12, 1864—5.20 p. m. (Received 5.25 p. m.)

Major-General WEITZEL:

Any movement will be postponed till further orders. It is too late to-night. Let your troops know that it is thought to send Tenth Corps across the James.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 12, 1864. (Received 9.40 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

GENERAL: The following dispatch has just been received:

My pickets report seeing this p. m. a good deal of dust across the river below Fort Darling, in the woods, and moving down to our left; also a dozen or fifteen wagons across river moving toward the pontoon as if to cross to this side.

C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Third Division.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

OCTOBER 12, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding, &c.:

Major-General Terry will move with two divisions, aided by Kautz, upon the enemy at the Darbytown road at daylight, so as to meet the enemy at sunrise. A vigilant watch should be kept of the enemy, and in case they move any forces to their left a demonstration should be made from Battery Harrison. The New Market road will need observation.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General MARSTON,
Commanding First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The general commanding corps directs that you at once withdraw from your line either the Second or Third Brigade of your division, and hold it in reserve near your headquarters ready to sup-

port the movement of General Terry. Your remaining brigade is to occupy the whole line previously held by both brigades. I send you copies of dispatches for your information.

By direction of Brevet Major-General Weitzel:

GEO. W. KELLEY,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 12, 1864.*

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Fort Powhatan:

I send Captain Mason to Fort Powhatan with about fifty cavalry to join the cavalry with you and clear out the country of such persons as are engaged in destroying the wires between you and Jamestown. Send your cavalry, under Captain Mason, with such information and guides as you have. The captain has received from me verbal instructions what to do.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEFENSES OF NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH,
October 12, 1864.

Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I would respectfully invite the attention of the major-general commanding to the weak state of the defenses at this point, arising from the denuding of the lines of nearly all the troops. The only forces now here are two companies of the Second Massachusetts Artillery, six companies of the Thirteenth New York Artillery, and portions of the First U. S. Colored doing provost duty, the Eighth New York Battery and the Second U. S. Colored Artillery [Battery B], together with the Twentieth New York Cavalry. This last is exclusively occupied with outpost duty. The only force that I can rely upon to hold the intrenched line covering Portsmouth are the two companies of the Second Massachusetts Artillery and four companies of the Thirteenth New York. One company of this regiment occupies Fort O'Rorke, near Norfolk, and another Fort Ringgold. In case of attack on the main line a portion of these might be drawn to its defense, but not over 100 men at most, and perhaps four companies of cavalry from Deep Creek and Bowers' Hill, which, including the batteries, would not give a total of more than 1,000 men. That line is nearly two miles and a half long. There are several works on it requiring to be strongly garrisoned. In a former communication addressed to the chief of staff I pointed out my objections to the line and the mode of defense planned for this place. The works were placed by the engineers before my arrival. They evidently calculated for having for the defense of the line 5,000 men. I stated that I thought a mode of defense might be adopted requiring a less number of men. Existing circumstances, however, and the present state of the line necessitates that the original plan be pursued. I would now respectfully represent that in consequence of the sending out of disloyal citizens the enemy may be induced to attempt a raid upon this place, and request that re-enforcements may be sent to me. I would request one light battery and two good regiments of infantry,

say about 450 strong each. I think with these I can hold the place against any attempted raid. I would mention that since my former communication upon this subject the Twenty-first Connecticut, two light batteries, two companies of the Second Massachusetts, and two of the Thirteenth New York have been withdrawn from the defenses of this place.

The major-general commanding has undoubtedly perceived ere this that the enemy, being cut off from the Valley of Virginia and being pressed for supplies, may be tempted to make an attack here. I do not anticipate any serious attempt except by way of Suffolk. I have endeavored to take all the precautions against it that the exceeding small forces at my disposal will admit of. After passing the old line there are, including the railroad, four roads by which the enemy may approach the second line—the new road, the Deep Creek, and the old county roads. The small redoubts have been arranged with reference to holding these roads, and all the forces I have will only garrison these works. I have deemed it my duty to candidly submit to the major-general commanding my views. Being in command of the whole, he can best judge of the proper disposition of his troops; still, it is possible, in the multiform duties he is called upon to discharge, the deficiency of the force at this point may have escaped his attention. Having invited his attention to it I shall have discharged my duty. There is another point to which I would respectfully invite the attention of the major-general commanding. By the inclosed telegram you will find that the telegraph operator at Bowers' Hill has been withdrawn from that station. This operator is sometimes stationed at Bowers' Hill and sometimes at Bernard's Mill, eighteen miles from this city. Whenever there is any reason to anticipate an attack he is at the latter post and can give me timely information of it. I presume the major-general commanding is aware of the importance of this station or he would not have permitted the operator here to have remained when he has been in want of his services at the front. An officer in Washington takes upon himself, without any consultation with me, to displace an important auxiliary to the defense of my position. The order does not purport to originate with any authority higher than the individual sending it, and I am thus to all intents and purposes subject to the orders of my juniors. The officer does not simply relieve the operator, but discontinues the station and orders the machine to be sent to Old Point. The individual sending this order is not in a position to judge of the importance of the station to the defense of this place. Probably even if he were on the ground he would not possess either the knowledge or experience that would justify his giving an opinion. He certainly cannot at Washington. As this order is a direct violation of General Orders, No. 129, from the Headquarters of the Army, of this year, and as I have no reason to suppose that the operator was withdrawn, either with the knowledge or consent of the major-general commanding, I request that he may be sent back, and that measures may be taken to prevent the recurrence of such irregularities in the future.

I would also call the attention of the commanding general to the importance of having a gun-boat placed at my disposal for patrolling the Nansemond and other streams in this vicinity. Such a vessel would add materially to the means of defense and could be made very useful.

I am, colonel, your obedient servant,

I. VOGDES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

BOWERS' HILL, *October 6, 1864.*

Brigadier-General VOGDES,
Commanding.

GENERAL: I am in receipt of the following telegram:

WASHINGTON, *October 6, 1864.*

W. F. HOLLOWAY,
Operator, Bowers' Hill:

Close your office soon as possible and relieve O'Brien at Norfolk. Send your instruments to Fort Monroe.

T. T. ECKERT.

[W. F. HOLLOWAY,
Operator.]

[Inclosure No. 2.]

WASHINGTON, *October 6, 1864.*

COMMANDING GENERAL NEAR NORFOLK:

Owing to the great demand for operators at the front, I am compelled to close the office near Portsmouth. If necessary to be reopened it will be done when more men can be had.

Very respectfully,

THOS. T. ECKERT,
Major and Assistant Superintendent.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN VIRGINIA,
Norfolk, Va., October 13, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the commanding general of the department.

From information in my possession I attach great importance to the suggestions of General Vogdes in relation to the immediate necessity for a telegraph operator at Bowers' Hill.

G. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 13, 1864—12 m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Since the receipt of your telegram of 10 p. m. yesterday Major-General Hancock reports the deserter as locating Battery 21 to the east of Fort Sedgwick as the objective point of the enemy's mine. He states, however, that only about 100 yards of gallery had been excavated when he left, beginning inside the enemy's works. This leaves over 400 yards of gallery to be excavated, passing across a deep ravine commanded by our pickets. The probabilities are that the works referred to by the deserter are some of the countermining precautions taken by the enemy, of which we have had numerous reports all along their lines ever since the explosion of the Burnside mine. General Hancock has, however, taken, and will take, all proper precautions, but he does not deem the contingency sufficiently probable to justify the with-

drawal of the garrison of Fort Sedgwick or Battery 21. He will, however, prepare a second line in rear of these works and construct listening galleries and trenches in their front, so as to be ready whenever it may be deemed essential to occupy the rear line. A deserter, who came into the Ninth Corps this a. m., reports a conversation between Generals Heth and Archer as to a proposed attack on the colored troops on our left and rear, in which General Heth said the cavalry could do all that was proposed. We are fully prepared on this part of the line for any attack and should like to have it made. Nothing else of importance to report, except that the desertions to the enemy of newly arrived substitutes and recruits is very much on the increase. One was shot in the Second Corps a few days ago between the lines in the act of deserting.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 13, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Bvt. Maj. Gen. M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

Lieutenant-General Grant directs me to say that you may order a portion of the railroad construction force to return here at once. Sheridan does not think it expedient to have any more labor put on the Manassas Gap Railroad. If there be no further repairs necessary on the Orange and Alexandria road I see no reason why most of the mechanics and track-men of the railroad party shall not return here, where their services are required in erecting the hospitals and extending the City Point road around to the vicinity of the South Side road. These works are important. I trust Major Wentz has received orders relative to putting up the hospital buildings.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Three deserters from the enemy, belonging to the First Tennessee, Forty-eighth North Carolina, and Fortieth Virginia, came into the lines of the Ninth Corps last evening. They are from Cooke's and Archer's brigades, of Heth's division. No movements on their part of the line. Cooke's brigade on the right of Heth's division and extreme right of the infantry line. The following deserters came into the lines of the Second Army Corps early this a. m.: One from the Sixtieth Alabama, Gracie's brigade, who states that his brigade is lying between the Burnside mine and the City Point Railroad—no movements in Johnson's division; three from the Fifty-sixth and Forty-ninth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, of Johnson's division, report their brigade lying between the City Point Railroad and the Appomattox, on the left of Johnson's division. The following deserters came into our lines from Covington, across the Appomattox, about 1 this a. m.: Four men from the Forty-fifth Georgia, Thomas' brigade, of Wilcox's

division. They report their brigade lying from Pocahontas to Fort Clifton, on the Chesterfield side, forming the connection between Johnson's and Pickett's divisions. State that no movements have taken place of late in their vicinity. Do not think any of Pickett's division have crossed to the south side of the Appomattox. Contrabands from Petersburg crossed this a. m. at Covington. They report that all but three of the heavy guns that have been in position from Fort Clifton to Petersburg have been sent to Richmond. They were moving some last Saturday. Only one gun left in Fort Clifton and only three in position on the north bank of the Appomattox between Fort Clifton and Pocahontas. From City Point we learn the force on the north side of the James to be unchanged—Field's and Hoke's divisions, Johnson's old (Tennessee) brigade, and a regiment from each of Pickett's brigades, with the local troops. No troops have passed over the Virginia Central either way since Rosser's cavalry brigade went to Early.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: John W. Timberlake, Fortieth Virginia, who came in last night about 12 midnight, near the Peebles place, on being examined by me states: That whilst on duty last night between 9 and 10 p. m. he heard his officer, Lieutenant George, Fortieth Virginia, say that he understood that Archer asked Heth if he should take his (Archer's) brigade around and attack the negro troops, which he had learned from a spy were posted in the rear. (Whereabouts in the rear Timberlake does not know.) Heth replied no; that infantry was not the proper force to send, but that cavalry was the best. Timberlake was sent out on vedette at this moment and did not hear further. The man is now here if you wish to examine him further. Mr. Babcock has gone down to City Point this morning to return in the afternoon.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. J. DALLAS,
Captain and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., in Charge of Office.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 13, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Deserter from Third Georgia, Wright's brigade, Wilcox's division, came into the lines of the Third Division, Fifth Army Corps, this p. m. He states that his colonel said Whiting's division (20,000 strong) had arrived and was on the right of the line—enemy's right. Has no further knowledge of the fact. This is the first intimation of the arrival of Whiting's division. We have nothing to corroborate it. Informant is a man of ordinary intelligence and the rest of his informa-

tion concerning the location of his brigade and division is, as we know it to be, correct. There was a rumor brought by a deserter some week or ten days since of the arrival of Whiting's division, but was positively contradicted the next day by a well-informed deserter who had friends in the division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CITY POINT, *October 13, 1864.*

JOHN C. BABCOCK,

Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Troops on the north side are unchanged. They are Field's and Hoke's divisions, Johnson's old (Tennessee) brigade, one regiment from each of Pickett's brigades, and the local defense. McEntee, who is here to remain, reports that no troops have passed over the Virginia Central either way since Rosser went to Early. Supplies to Early are sent by James River Canal, and the depot at Gordonsville has been removed toward Richmond. The transportation of the Central is said to be used in carrying goods from Richmond to Danville. Rumors of preparations to abandon Richmond are common about Orange Court-House. General Lee has full powers in the absence of Mr. Davis. Men are allowed to go into Richmond, but nothing short of a woman can get out.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 13, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,

City Point:

Twelve deserters to-day, representing Cooke's, Gracie's, Ransom's, and Thomas' brigades. No change in enemy's position discovered. Contrabands report the moving of heavy guns from the forts on the Chesterfield side of the Appomattox, last Saturday, to Richmond. Only three guns from Fort Clifton to Petersburg, and only one in Fort Clifton.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 13, 1864.

Captain DAVIS:

One engine moved westward on South Side Railroad at 7.45 a. m. Infantry appear much more numerous than usual along works between fort 30 degrees east of north and lead-works.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

The above message was also sent to Captain Paine.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Carothers and Jordan report no change this a. m. Holman reports all quiet.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Captain Thickstun reports that quite an extensive work is in progress to the enemy's right of the fort where the Whitworth gun is mounted, which fired upon our cars in passing in front of the Avery house.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Signal Officer.

HALIFAX ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 13, 1864—6 p. m.

Capt. CHARLES L. DAVIS:

No change in enemy's line on this front observed this day. Twenty-five wagons seen moving east and west on Boydton plank road this day.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that the signal stations along our front report all quiet to-day. The following message was intercepted:

Colonel B.:

Report of observations in front of Steuart's brigade as follows: Wagons were passing to and fro. One company of infantry drilling in rear of their lower works. One steamer went up the James with the dredging machine in tow, followed by a small steamer, and stopped at Dutch Gap.

J. B.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

The station near the Friend house reports that the enemy are building a new fort to our right of the city.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

SQUIRREL LEVEL SIGNAL STATION,
October 13, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

At 7 a. m. noticed the smoke from an engine moving back and forth on South Side Railroad; finally it moved off in direction from Petersburg. Traced the smoke from a point about 20 degrees west of north to a point 25 degrees west of north. Observed a new camp of the enemy's in wood half a mile west of toll-gate on Boydton plank road. Should think it the camp of an infantry brigade. Troops more numerous near enemy's fortifications; 15 degrees west of north from this station noticed several small fatigue parties moving into the woods near that point.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 13, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

At 10.30 a. m. about 200 infantry passed westward by fort 30 degrees east of north on Boydton plank road; 3.50 p. m. about 300 men, apparently convalescents, came westward by fort on Boydton plank road. Men were drilling near fort on Boydton plank road and near the lead-works. At 4.45 the enemy strengthened his picket along the front.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Captain Thickstun reports a party of enemy at work this p. m. at point reported this a. m. Sergeant Jordan reports nothing new. Sergeant Holman, all quiet. Enemy sent a long message, but he was unable to take the numbers on account of high wind. Lieutenant Strong reports that enemy threw up earth last night in front of Fort McGilvery, and that it has the appearance of a fort under construction. Sergeant Carothers reports all quiet. I sent you the new code by Doctor Howard.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 277. } *October 13, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

4. Upon the recommendation of the commanding officer Second Army Corps, the following changes will be made in the garrisons of the inclosed works on the line of the First Division, Second Army Corps: Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers, Maj. J. E. Larkin, to be placed in Fort Stedman in place of Fifty-seventh and One hundred and twenty-fifth New York and One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers; Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Capt. L. Mercer, in Battery No. 4, in place of Second New York Artillery; Twenty-eighth

Massachusetts Volunteers, Major Fleming, in Battery No. 9, in place of Eighty-eighth New York Volunteers; Sixty-ninth New York, Captain ———, in place of Seventh New York Artillery in Batteries 11 and 12; Sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, in Fort Stedman, in place of Fifty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers; One hundred and eleventh New York Volunteers, Captain Murdock, in Battery No. ———, in place of Sixty-ninth New York.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., October 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: Send immediately one of the regiments now serving with you, and belonging to the army of General Butler, to report to Colonel Potter, commanding forces on Butler's old line, near Bermuda Hundred. The regiment will march with promptness to Broadway Landing, crossing the pontoon bridge at that place. Let the regiment sent be the strongest you have.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., October 13, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Col. C. W. DIVEN,
Commanding Two hundredth Pennsylvania Volunteers:

In compliance with an order from General Grant you will immediately move your regiment and report to Colonel Potter, commanding forces in Butler's old line near Bermuda Hundred. You will march with promptness to Broadway Landing, crossing the pontoon bridge at that place. There must be no delay in your breaking your camp. It is very desirable that you should report to Colonel Potter as soon as possible. You will not wait to relieve the detachment you have on picket, but leave them to follow you after being relieved by men from the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 13, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

William H. Kent, a reporter of the Tribune, whom you sent out of the department, wishes to come back and promises to behave well. I think he was not so much to blame as his informant. Have you any objection?

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 13, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

W. H. Kent was excluded from the army by order of Lieutenant-General Grant on the complaint of Major-General Hancock. Recently an application to return from Mr. Kent was referred to me by General Grant and, after referring to Major-General Hancock, was returned to General Grant with General Hancock's indorsement and mine. I have personally no objection to Mr. Kent or any other person being here who will confine himself to facts and the truth.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in my lines since last report. The deserter who reported the mining operations of the enemy fixed the place as Battery 21. A well and galleries are now being constructed. Deserters came in this morning from Ransom's, Gracie's, and Thomas' brigades. The latter is over the river.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—9 a. m.

General MEADE:

There has been nothing more discovered than was reported to you yesterday morning. The deserter fixed the direction of the gallery under Battery 21, but his statement was not considered sufficient to remove the garrison. Evidently the enemy have a countermine under the fort opposite, and the only gallery they are running is the listening gallery. Its reported length, however, which was 150 yards three weeks ago, according to the deserter, and has been worked on since, led to the thought that they might propose mining. The distance is 540 yards. Lieutenant Benyaurd, who was out with the man, can give you full information. The wells in front of Fort Sedgwick are nearly full of water, showing that none of them have been tapped. An officer entered one the other night, but heard no signs of work. Unless there is something more developed you may not consider it worth while to move the garrison.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—9.10 a. m.

General MEADE:

When I returned last night about 9 o'clock I learned that the deserter had located the enemy's gallery in front of Battery 21, and that

Lieutenant Benyaurd had working an engineer company there on well and gallery, and supposed you had been informed either through these headquarters or the engineers. I will have the second line prepared for occupation and am going up there to examine the ground.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

The attention of division commanders is called to the want of banquettes on some parts of the line, especially in some parts of the works. Wherever the troops cannot readily fire over the works now suitable arrangements to enable them to do so will at once be perfected.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that yesterday afternoon the Third Vermont Battery relieved the Twenty-seventh New York Battery in Fort Alexander Hays, the Twenty-seventh New York reporting to commanding officer Artillery Brigade, Ninth Corps. At dark two additional Coehorn mortars were placed in Battery No. 20. Captain Woerner's (Third New Jersey) battery withdrew from Battery 16 and relieved the Third Vermont Battery in Fort Alexander Hays. The Third Vermont went into position in Battery No. 16. Very little artillery firing during the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 535. } *October 13, 1864.*

1. Col. George N. Macy, Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, having reported to the brigadier-general commanding, in compliance with Special Orders, No. 258, current series, from headquarters Second Army Corps, is assigned to the command of the Consolidated Brigade of this division.

* * * * * * *

By order of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. DE TROBRIAND,
Commanding Third Division, Second Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires me to inform you that he returned to these headquarters last evening and reassumed command of the corps.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front last night and through the day. A detail was at work yesterday making a heavy slashing in front of the picket-line on our right in General Bragg's front. This part of the line has been very much strengthened by being intrenched and by slashing the timber in front. The advancing of this portion of the line gives to us an excellent view of the enemy's works. Our signal officer on Squirrel Level road reports that the enemy seem to have increased their picket force on that portion of their line in his view. Two deserters from Sixty-fourth Georgia were received and sent up yesterday.

Respectfully,
S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 13, 1864—9.15 a. m.

General S. W. CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general desires that you will report at once by telegraph the names of any officers of the Fifth Corps who fell in the recent engagement near Peebles' farm, as asked for in the telegram of yesterday.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 13, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. W. CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The leave of absence for seven days granted to Major-General Warren has been extended five days.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In compliance with your order, I have the honor to report the names of officers who were killed in the late battle at Peebles' farm: Col. Norval E. Welch, Sixteenth Michigan Veteran Volunteers; Capt. J. H. Wheaton, First Michigan Veteran Volunteers; Capt. W. H. Keene, Twentieth Maine Volunteers; First Lieut. Thomas D. Urmston, Twelfth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieut. J. Conahey, One hundred and eighteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A deserter named Youngsen, from the Third Georgia, Wright's brigade, of Mahone's division, came into my lines this evening. He seems to be a man of more than ordinary intelligence; is quite different from the ordinary class of deserters, and if closely and carefully questioned would probably [*sic*]. He confirms the report that Whiting is opposite our left with a large number of men. He denies that there is the despondency among the rebels that is represented. He says that the regiments are receiving re-enforcements daily; that his own company got fourteen men the other day. He reports, also, a rumor of importance that the rebels are considering the subject of calling out 250,000 slaves for their army, to be free in case of the success of their cause. General Anderson commands Beauregard's troops. The man says that he had two sons in Pittsburg, and that he believes they are in our army. A negro soldier deserted to the enemy to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 13, 1864—5 p. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Fifth Corps:

Information from deserters and others indicates an attempt on our left and rear by the enemy's cavalry. Parke has been directed to occupy the redoubt to the west of Fort Dushane. The officer in Fort Dushane should be notified to be vigilant and let his pickets connect with those thrown out from Parke's work. You will also have to be prepared with the reserves of the corps to move to the rear in case of a persistent attack.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
October 13, 1864—6.45 p. m.

[Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE:]

COLONEL: It is not necessary to transmit the dispatch,* as it came from headquarters of the army. Please direct Generals Griffin, Ayres, and Baxter to hold a brigade each in readiness to move to the left at once upon the receipt of orders to that effect. Please direct General Baxter to inform the commanding officer of Fort Dushane of the condition of things, and direct him to be vigilant, and to connect with Parke by a strong picket-line, and cover the Halifax road. Please mark any dispatches for me to Captain Cowdrey in the corner of the envelope.

Yours, respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

[General S. W. CRAWFORD:]

GENERAL: Captain Davis, chief signal officer, reports the observations of to-day, as follows:

Increase of enemy's picket force in front of the Boswell house, on the Church road, and a considerable increase of the enemy near the large fort on the Boydton plank road at or near where it is crossed by Rohoick Creek.

I will telegraph the above to headquarters Army of the Potomac.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Forwarded to Brig. Gen. S. Williams at 7 p. m.)

CIRCULAR, No. 142.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Information having been received from headquarters Army of the Potomac, indicating that the enemy's cavalry intend making an attempt on our left and rear, the following dispositions are ordered: Each division commander will hold a brigade in readiness to move to the left at once, upon the receipt of orders to that effect. Brigadier-General Baxter, commanding Third Division, will inform the commanding officer of Fort Dushane of this contemplated movement on the part of the enemy, and direct him to be vigilant and to connect with the troops of the Ninth Corps by a strong picket-line, and cover the Halifax road.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford, commanding corps:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* Next, *ante*.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Colonel Sickel will hold his brigade in readiness to comply with the provisions of the foregoing circular. He will see that the men have the requisite amount of ammunition.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

R. M. BRINTON,
Lieut., Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Col. F. WINTHROP,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: Information having been received from headquarters Army of the Potomac, indicating that the enemy's cavalry intend making an attempt on our left and rear, the general commanding division directs that you hold as much of your brigade as you can spare from the works to move to the left at once upon the receipt of orders to that effect. In making this disposition you can calculate upon one regiment from the Third Brigade being sent to occupy the works on your line near the Vaughan road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. E. LA MOTTE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Col. A. H. GRIMSHAW,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: You will hold one of your largest regiments in readiness to move to the right and occupy the works on the Vaughan road on receipt of orders to that effect.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. E. LA MOTTE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired along our lines in the past twenty-four hours. The redoubts are all completed, excepting two—one in the edge of the timber on the right of the Pegram house, and one directly west of Peebles' house.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have just learned that the deserter from the Fortieth Virginia told one of our officers that Mahone's division and the cavalry had moved

to their right for the purpose of attacking the negro troops. The deserter said nothing to me about this, and as he has been sent forward it would be well to question him further, and if there is anything in it General Gregg should be notified.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Referred to Mr. Babcock, who will examine particularly into this and report without delay. Return this telegram.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 13, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General PARKE:

I have given orders to have the deserter referred to by you particularly examined. I send you the result.* I attach no importance to this report, as we have quite recent intelligence from other deserters that Mahone's division is in line from the Weldon railroad to the Jerusalem plank road. The deserter now says it was a brigade of Heth's division that was to make the attack. It would be as well you should hurry the occupation and armament of the rear redoubts and get the troops into position to meet any attempt on the part of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Instruction was received this evening from General Meade that you would occupy the redoubt west of Fort Dushane with your troops, and that we were to connect with your pickets thrown out in front of your work. General Crawford supposed that the fort you would occupy would be the one next west of Fort Dushane. A staff officer of General Baxter, who has just come in, reports the fort west of the last mentioned occupied with colored troops and pickets out in front of it. As General Baxter's pickets will connect with yours, will you please state where the left of your line will rest? General Crawford having gone to his own headquarters, I have the honor to send this.

Respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 13, 1864—11 p. m.

Colonel LOCKE:

The left of my picket-line now rests on the Vaughan road below the redoubt on the road. In the morning I propose placing a regiment

* See Dallas to Humphreys, p. 199.

and also some guns in the redoubt between Vaughan road and Fort Dushane. If you will please connect with my present left to-night, will have the line replaced in the morning to the front of the redoubt we are to occupy.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

I have the honor to state that General Baxter will connect with the left of your line, as you propose. He has sent out a staff officer for that purpose.

Respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Have you any news from the rear making this movement particularly urgent; or is it simply in accordance with general instructions from the major-general commanding?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—11.50 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

We have received no additional news. The instructions of the major-general commanding were to be very vigilant, and to make the dispositions as to connections of pickets.

Respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Lieut. Col. WALTER C. NEWBERRY,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to say that you will hold your brigade in readiness to move at a moment's notice if required.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 13, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to notify you that a deserter who came in this a. m. reports he overheard a conversation between Generals Heth and Archer as to a contemplated attack on our left and rear, in which Heth said the cavalry only would be employed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
October 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES,
Commanding First Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs me to inform you that intelligence has been received by him from army headquarters of intended movement of the enemy's cavalry upon our left and rear. The general desires that every preparation be made to receive an attack; that the pickets be instructed to be particularly vigilant and the reserves be held in readiness for prompt action. It must be particularly insisted upon that your commanders on picket shall promptly report any advance of the enemy to the commander of the infantry behind them, those on the left to General Hancock. The forage and rations of regiments both in camp and on picket must be issued and not allowed to accumulate. The regiments must be kept ready for immediate service and every measure be taken to prevent a surprise.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs me to inform you that intelligence has been sent him from army headquarters to the effect that a movement is contemplated by the enemy's cavalry on our left and rear. The general commanding directs that pickets be instructed to be particularly watchful and vigilant, and that the reserves be kept ready for prompt action. Let your regiments have the rations and forage issued and in condition to move out quickly. The commanders on picket must be instructed to report any advance of the enemy to the infantry commanders in their vicinity—those on the extreme right to General Parke, those in front of the Gurley house to General Warren—and also to send word to your headquarters rapidly. The force picketing on the plank road must be particularly watchful, and if necessary strengthened. Let every precaution be taken to prevent a surprise on any portion of your line. Let one of your regiments be kept saddled to-night.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 13, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The men will be sent to the regiment to which they were assigned by the War Department. There is no evidence that these men have been tampered with here. They certainly have not been by the provost officers in charge of them here. Please send an officer to take charge of them and conduct them to their regiment.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, October 13, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding U. S. Armies, Headquarters City Point:

I forward to you the inclosed dispatch* from General Terry as the result so far of his reconnaissance, which he begun this morning at daylight. Shall I order an attack on the works? They extend in a line from the house marked E. Cunningham on the map, near Darbytown road, about two miles from the intermediate line, round to the point near New Market road, marked Laurel Hill.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 13, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I would not attack the enemy in his intrenchments. The reconnaissance now serves to locate them for any future operation. To attack now we would lose more than the enemy and only gain ground which we are not prepared to hold, nor are we prepared to follow up any advantage we might gain.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 13, 1864—1.20 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *City Point, Va.:*

Dispatch received. Orders have been sent to General Terry to reconnoiter the ground thoroughly and to return to his old position.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 13, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following is forwarded for the information of General Grant. I have not heard from Terry since I sent orders not [to] attack the works.†

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

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* See Terry to Butler, 10.30 a. m., p. 218.
† See Weitzel to Butler, 1.25 p. m., p. 222.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 13, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Has the expedition started out this morning returned? What was the result of their observations? The troops here have been assigned to General Benham to complete work laid to protect this place from raids and to enable a small force to hold it, in case it becomes necessary to move the greater part of the army. I would not like to reduce this force unless there is a special necessity for it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 13, 1864—7.25 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The expedition has returned. General Terry is now telegraphing me the results. I will send them as soon as received.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 13, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The enemy have re-enforced in front of my old line, now commanded by Colonel Potter, who thinks they may attack him; I do not. They have been reconnoitering this evening with a balloon.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 13, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Have you artillery enough at Bermuda to defend it if the enemy should attack? I do not think such a thing likely, but rather judge their examination to be with a view to farther advance their force there to re-enforce north of the James. We want to be watchful at all points.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 13, 1864—9.15 p. m. (Received 9.20 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

I think we have artillery enough in Bermuda to defend it if they should attack. We have all the artillery necessary on the line and one six-gun Napoleon battery for movable artillery. I do not believe in any intention of attack. A deserter I had from in front of our line there said they had orders to look out for an attack from us day before yesterday.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 13, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Please give me such information as you have of the result of General Terry's reconnaissance. Such wild rumors were afloat about Varina this evening that I feel much anxiety to know the facts.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 13, 1864—9.50 p. m. (Received 10.20 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point, Va.:*

The operations to-day, as I learn them from General Terry, are as follows: With two divisions and Kautz's cavalry he went up the Darbytown road; went along the enemy's lines to the right for something like a mile, driving in the enemy's pickets, with considerable loss to them. He then sent me a telegram, which I forwarded to you at 12 m. To that I returned an answer, "Dispatch received; contents referred to General Grant. Will send orders," at 12.10. After receiving your orders at 1.30 I dispatched to him the following: "I would not attack the enemy in their intrenchments. After carefully reconnoitering the enemy, find their position, look at all the roads, and retire at leisure." At 3 o'clock I received from him that General Kautz had found a place in the line where there was apparently a gap, and Ames had gone in with a brigade before my orders were received; that he would retire as soon as that fact was settled. Ames was unsuccessful, owing to the enemy's lines being retired, which gave the impression that there was a gap in the line. The enemy then charged Ames and were repulsed handsomely. Terry then retired leisurely, followed only by a line of skirmishers for a short distance. The losses in his corps, he says, during the day were between 300 and 400. The troops are all back in their camps and everything quiet. There is not the slightest cause for any anxiety. I had telegraphed for all particulars from General Terry, but ascertained that, being very much tired, he was home abed.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 13, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Now that the enemy's line is extended so far to our left, is there any objection to my sending to Bermuda one of the two regiments sent to Prince George Court-House?

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 13, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I have ordered General Benham to send back one of the regiments brought from Bermuda. Please notify Colonel Potter that it will reach Bermuda between this and morning, and for him to designate where it shall go.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

OCTOBER 13, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Colonel Potter is naturally, from his situation, a little nervous, and I have ordered General Weitzel to send over the Twelfth New Hampshire to him, Colonel Potter's own regiment.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *October 13, 1864.*

Lieutenant DAVENPORT,
General Butler's Staff:

Johnson's division extends from the Appomattox to the Jerusalem plank road. It is all there except the Tennessee brigade; Mahone's division from plank road to the lead-works, with two brigades, Weisiger's and Harris' in reserve; Scales' brigade, from lead-works to the Squirrel Level road, and Lane and McGowan with all of Heth's division on the Boydton plank road. Hampton's cavalry encamped on the Boydton plank road near Burgess' Mill. We should like to be assured of the certainty that all of Pickett's except the four regiments can be located.

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 13, 1864—9.10 p. m.

Colonel DODGE,
Chief Quartermaster, Bermuda:

Send the detachment of the New York Mounted Rifles to report to General Kautz.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

COBB'S HILL, *October 13, 1864—7.15 p. m.*
(Received 8.15 p. m.)

Captain CLUM,
Chief Signal Officer:

The enemy have been up in a balloon making observations on our line. This in my immediate front. They were also signaling to parties below.

G. F. YOUNG,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 126.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, October 13, 1864.

It being testified to the commanding general by a number of refugees and deserters from the enemy that from 100 to 150 soldiers of the United States, captured in arms by the Confederates on the lines near Chaffin's Bluff, have been taken from Libby Prison and otherwheres, and placed to labor on the intrenchments of the enemy's lines in front of their troops, the commanding general on the 13th day of October

notified the Confederate agent of exchange, Robert Ould, of the outrage being perpetrated upon his soldiers, and informed him that unless the practice was stopped retaliation in kind would be adopted by the Government of the United States.

Being assured by General Ewell, commanding Confederate forces on the north side of the James, that an answer to this communication, if any, would be sent by 11 a. m. to-day, and it being now past 12 (noon) and no answer having been received, it is ordered that an equal number of prisoners of war, preferably members of the Virginia Reserves, by and under whose charge this outrage is being carried on, be set to work in the excavation at Dutch Gap and elsewhere along the trenches, as may hereafter seem best, in retaliation for this unjust treatment of the soldiers of the United States so kept at labor and service by the Confederate authorities.

It being also testified to by the same witnesses that the rations served to the soldiers of the United States so at labor is one pound of flour and one-third of a pound of bacon daily, it is ordered that the same ration precisely be served to these Confederate prisoners so kept at work daily, and no other or different.

It being further testified to that the time of labor of the soldiers of the United States so at work under the Confederates is ten hours each day, these Confederate prisoners so kept at work will be made to work, and work faithfully, daily during the same period of time.

This order will be read to the prisoners set to work the first time they are mustered for labor, in order that they may know why it is that they do not receive that kind and courteous treatment they have heretofore from the United States as prisoners of war.

Upon any attempt to escape, by any of these prisoners so kept at work, they will be instantly shot.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *October 13, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy fired quite constantly during the night, but have appeared to be afraid to open to-day; at long intervals sending a few shells in rapid succession and then ceasing altogether. Am quite encouraged. Earnestly request to be placed in command of the new work on Cox's Hill with my whole company. The position is surely an excellent one for practice, and the men require a change. Shall be able to use the 100-pounder to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—1 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

General Ames has just forwarded to me the following report from his division officer of the day. The only thing of any importance in it is

the statement in regard to wheels, which confirms a report which I have received from General William Birney that the noise of artillery or wagons moving to our right had been heard by one of his officers on the picket-line. I send this for what it may be worth and in order not to withhold any information which can possibly be of value:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—12.15 a. m.

LIEUTENANT: In pursuance of instructions from General Ames I made a careful reconnaissance of the enemy's movements from our picket-line in front of the Kell house in the direction of the Darbytown road. I could hear the movement of wheels toward our right. There seemed to be activity of the enemy in the same direction. Axes could be heard and pounding as if in the construction of fortifications. Within about twenty minutes two shots were fired within the enemy's lines, apparently accidentally; immediately on the picket-line of the enemy all was quiet. It is my impression that forces of the enemy have been moved to the neighborhood of the Darbytown road from our left.

I am, lieutenant, very respectfully, &c.,

EDWARD CAMPBELL,
Lieut. Col. Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Vols. and Division Officer of the Day.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: The attack was delayed till 6.35 a. m. by the failure of General Kautz to get up in time. Ames has been quite smartly engaged; Birney less so. I get reports from General Kautz and Colonel Spear that the enemy appear to be in force in cavalry and infantry on the Charles City road, the line facing the Darbytown road. Ames and Birney still advancing. Will report again soon.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

OCTOBER 13, 1864—8.45 a. m.

General TERRY:

Dispatch received 8.30. Heard first sharp musketry at 7.40; next at 8 o'clock.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department:

General Ames, whose left rests upon the Darbytown road, and whose right extends more than half a mile, as he says, from the road, has felt the enemy's line, and sends me the report from his brigade commanders that along the whole of his front there are rifle-pits and slashing, the slashing from 100 to 200 yards in width. There is a battery opposite his center. General William Birney reports a strong inclosed

work on the Darby road, with artillery, but whether more than one gun is not known. Some distance to the west of the road is another work, in which there is also artillery. He cannot ascertain if the work is inclosed or not. Connecting these two works is a strong breast-work, covered by a slashing. This breast-work extends beyond the last-mentioned work, how far is not yet known, but is trying to ascertain. General Kautz, on Ames' right, has a part of his men dismounted, and I have asked him to feel all along, to ascertain whether the line is continuous or ends between the two roads. Spear is on the Charles City road with his brigade, and reports in his front two regiments of cavalry and a small force of infantry. As at present advised, I think we cannot pierce their works except by massing on some point and attacking in column. I hesitate to do this without further instructions from you after our conversation of last night. Please direct me in regard to it. As well as I can ascertain, the works are as you located them on the map last evening.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 13, 1864—12.10 p. m.

General TERRY:

Dispatch received; contents referred to General Grant. Will send orders.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 13, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding:

I would not attack the enemy in their intrenchments. Having carefully reconnoitered the enemy, found their position, and looked out all the roads, retire at leisure.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—2 p. m. (Received 2.40 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

Since my last dispatch to you Kautz reported to me that there was a place beyond Ames' right in front of which there appeared to be no slashing. I therefore ordered Ames to extend his right and try to break in. I have just received your dispatch ordering me to retire at leisure, but at the moment of its reception Ames' movement was in progress. I am not yet informed of the result, but from the cessation of firing I do not think it has been successful. Will report again in a few moments.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—3 p. m. (Received 3.27 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Ames' attempt to pierce the line was not successful. I shall now retire in accordance with your last dispatch.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

My troops are all in. We were not followed except by a line of skirmishers on the extreme right. These came on but for a short distance, and were soon stopped by the artillery. I think that the total loss in this corps is between 300 and 400, of which from two-thirds to three-fourths falls on the First Division. I do not know Kautz's loss, but think it must be slight. I expect to be able to telegraph you the precise number of casualties this evening.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—7.10 a. m.

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: I would suggest that you form a crochet on your right or an echelon to cover your right flank until the truth of Colonel Spear's report is ascertained.

Very respectfully,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Colonel CURTIS,
Commanding Brigade, Second Division:

COLONEL: Please look out for my left. Get scouts well out, and should you ascertain any attempt to turn my left (the left of General Birney), march against the enemy and attack him.

Respectfully, yours,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—8.45 a. m.

General BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Ames is prepared to attack. When he goes in, please to make

as strong a demonstration as you can with your skirmishers. Please endeavor to ascertain more definitely the nature of the works on your left.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

During my absence out on my lines some deserters were forwarded to you. I am told that one of them, from the Eighteenth Georgia, reports that Kershaw's division was to relieve the local defense troops in my front to-day. If Kershaw's division is as near as that, won't it be used against Terry to-day?

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Paine reports the arrival of one regiment of the enemy, about 250 strong, in front of our left and moving toward our right.

Respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864. (Received 12.28 p. m.)

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH:

The following dispatch has just been received from General Paine:

There has been a good deal of firing in the enemy's lines in different places this a. m.; at first sounding like discharging pieces; since more irregular. One regiment just now seemed to be formed in the breast-works; more men than usual are about. Several groups are collected in places.

C. J. PAINE,
Third Division.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 13, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL:

What do you make of Paine's dispatch?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—12.50 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I was out on picket-line when all he reports occurred. I saw and heard it all. I believe their troops, either in anticipation of an attack or in consequence of the rain last night, were discharging muskets to clean them up. I have ordered Paine, however, to keep a strict watch on their movements. Their gun-boats, too, occupy positions now as though they expected a movement on our left; they cover that whole ground.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864—1.25 p. m. (Received 1.40 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I hear that Terry has driven the enemy from the works they were constructing and has passed on. Quite brisk skirmishing was going on at 12.30, so my pickets near New Market road report.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Forwarded for the information of General Grant.

I have not heard from Terry since I sent orders not to attack the works.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 13, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL:

Terry has found the enemy in force and intrenched. I have ordered him to return after making reconnaissance.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864. (Received 9.50 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The following dispatch has just been received:

OLD HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

General WEITZEL:

It is reported that new troops have relieved Pickett's division on this front.

THEO. READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

I think I had better send the Twelfth New Hampshire, Potter's regiment, over there at once. That place is weak, and this regiment would give Potter much confidence. Shall I do it?

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 13, 1864—10.05 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

Send the Twelfth New Hampshire to Potter immediately.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

General BUTLER:

It will be sent at once.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864. (Received 10.30 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL; I would respectfully call your attention to the case of Capt. Cecil Clay, Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, who lost one arm and was wounded in the other while establishing his regimental colors on the parapet of Fort Harrison September 29. This is a special case and deserves special mention.

Respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
October 13, 1864—4 p. m.

Maj. T. READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Have just returned from headquarters Tenth Corps; learn that our forces have three times charged the rebel works on Darbytown road and been repulsed; that the rebels have in turn charged us and been repulsed. Our loss said to be some 250 killed and wounded.

Respectfully,

G. MARSTON,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Major READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A regiment just passed through woods in rear of enemy's extreme right (our left) behind their works toward our right; how far they went don't know; had knapsacks on and many stragglers; looked as if just arrived from a distance. This is reported by Colonel Holman, commanding First Brigade, who saw them; thought to be 250. There has been an unusual number of men and squads of men everywhere in

and in front of enemy's lines all day, especially p. m. A new embrasure has just been cut bearing about toward my headquarters in second work down the curtain from Fort Harrison.

Respectfully,

C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL BRIGADE, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA.,
October 13, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters Army of the James:

COLONEL: A rebel deserter has just come in who reports that the enemy is being re-enforced in my front, and that several regiments have come in within a day or two. I have sent the deserter to your headquarters.

Yours, &c.,

J. H. POTTER,
Colonel Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, October 13, 1864—8.35 p. m.

Colonel POTTER:

The signal officer on your left reports the enemy have been up in a balloon making observations on your line and signaling to parties below. Keep a sharp lookout and advise me of any movement.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Colonel POTTER:

I have just sent you the Twelfth New Hampshire. It will be over to-night.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: It seems to me very desirable to ascertain how far the enemy's intrenchments extend to our right, and whether or not they are on the Charles City road. Cannot your skirmishers between Ames' right and the Charles City road drive in the enemy's skirmishers, so as to determine the location and extent of their works in that quarter? I have ordered Ames to attack, and an advance of your skirmishers will aid him.

Very respectfully,

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

CITY POINT, *October 14, 1864—1 p. m.*
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

I wish you would order Allen's battery (H, Rhode Island) here. I will send back in return to be recruited up Batteries A and B, Rhode Island. These two number but one officer and seventy-nine men.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 14, 1864—12 m. (Sent 12.10 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Conversations with cavalry vedettes on the left yesterday seemed on the part of the enemy to indicate some movements of their cavalry against our rear, as particular inquiry was made as to the location of the colored troops. The day and night have, however, passed without disturbance. Deserters continue to repeat report of the presence of General Whiting with re-enforcements from North Carolina. I cannot ascertain anything positive upon this point, but judge from so many rumors that it is probable some effort is being made to procure re-enforcements from that State under Whiting. In view of a probable cavalry movement I am unable to report the progress of the works in front of City Point under General Benham, as that officer does not, although ordered to do so, make any reports to these headquarters.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *October 14, 1864.*
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

My staff officers have examined the work done by General Benham and report it about as defensible as ordinary rifle-pits, with the work progressing well. Owing to a threatening attack on Bermuda Hundred I had to order back one of the regiments drawn from General Butler during the night last night. This diminishes Benham's working force.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
October 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Four deserters from Archer's and MacRae's brigades, of Heth's division, came into General Parke's lines to-night. No change in the enemy's position on the right. Cooke's brigade on extreme right joins the cavalry near Claypole's house (marked J. Boisseau's on map). No reserve forces on the right. Works very strong and well defended

with slashings and abatis. No information concerning Whiting's division. One of informants heard it was at Stony Creek a week ago. Other informants think the rumor of its having arrived here is a canard. The line from the lead-works to the extreme right is still held by Heth's and three brigades of Wilcox's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Scouts have just returned bringing the following communication from Richmond agent. Some of Early's men have arrived—say about a brigade, amounting to probably 3,000 or 4,000 men. If the numbers mentioned are at all accurate, a division must have arrived, as there is no brigade in Early's command which numbers over 1,200 men. The last report made by scouts from Fredericksburg was to the effect that part of the troops which had been sent from Richmond to Early had returned to Richmond. The indications from their report were that it was Kershaw's command. The Richmond agent also reports that a body of artillerymen have arrived from Early's command without their guns. These are undoubtedly the men belonging to the artillery recently captured by General Sheridan. These men have been placed in the local defenses of Richmond. General Kemper is in command of the city of Richmond. General Lee's headquarters are at James Taylor's farm, near and northwest from Chaffin's Bluff. A good report is expected early next week from the same party.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 14, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain PAINE:

At 7.10 a. m. an engine moved westward on South Side Railroad. No other movements have been observed from this station.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Jordan reports that a small infantry camp west of Pocahontas and near Richmond pike disappeared last night. No other changes. Carothers reports that more infantry camped during the night in new camp west of railroad and to right of large fort. The camp now consists of about two brigades. All quiet and no other change visible. Holman reports all quiet. I had given such orders in regard to intercepted messages.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Signal Officer.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 14, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

At 1 p. m. 200 infantry passed fort going west on Boydton plank road. During the p. m. the enemy was engaged in felling trees before his works on this front. At 3.30 p. m. five wagon-loads of corn-stalks passed fort on Boydton plank road going east.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report from the signal officer at the headquarters Fifth Corps:

A summary for to-day is as follows: A camp of at least a brigade of infantry has disappeared from the Boydton plank road near Rohick [Rohoick] Creek, and small parties of men have passed westward during the day on that road. Working parties have been engaged during the day felling timber in front of the fort or work near the R. Jones house.

DAVIS,
Captain.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 347. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, October 14, 1864.

* * * * * * *

45. By direction of the President, Bvt. Brig. Gen. James Gwyn, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to duty according to his brevet rank. He will report to Lieutenant-General Grant by letter for orders.

46. By direction of the President, Bvt. Brig. Gen. E. M. Gregory, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to duty according to his brevet rank. He will report by letter to Lieutenant-General Grant for orders.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 278. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 14, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. Upon the recommendation of the commanding officer Second Army Corps, the garrison of Fort Sedgwick will be changed by substituting the One hundred and tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers for the Seventeenth Maine Volunteers, now in the work.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864. (Received 9 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in my lines since last report. It is said that the enemy are constructing a new work opposite Fort McGilvery. Some new dirt has been thrown up there, but not enough to determine the nature of the work. The fraise for the second line between Hare house and Fort McGilvery is being constructed, and the line will be ready to occupy as soon as the fraise is done.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The Nineteenth Indiana Volunteers reported to me yesterday.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 14, 1864—12 m. (Sent 12.10 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

I desire you should place any force you may have on the Jerusalem plank road in Forts Stevenson and Blaisdell, with instructions to assist the engineer troops in completing these works and afterward keeping them in good condition. The presence of the cavalry on that road will relieve your infantry of much picketing, and should the cavalry be withdrawn, which they would be in case of a movement of the enemy's cavalry, the occupation of these works with a few guns, if you can spare them, would secure the plank road from being used by the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864—12.55 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding:

I have ordered garrisons to Forts Stevenson and Blaisdell. I have no artillery. The section I had in reserve I put in the second line in rear of Fort Sedgwick last night. I have a section in Fort Bross. My reserves on the plank road are exhausted, but I still have one at Fort Hays.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864.

Lieut. JOHN W. RODER,
Commanding Battery K, Fourth U. S. Artillery:

LIEUTENANT: The major commanding directs me to say that he wishes you to keep up an irregular fire at intervals during the night

on the work which the enemy is erecting in front of Fort McGilvery for the purpose of annoying working parties. If the Eleventh New York Battery commands the position better than yours he desires that battery to keep up the necessary fire. If necessary, show this letter to the commanding officer Eleventh New York Battery.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 14, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following changes in the lines of this division: The Second U. S. Sharpshooters, Eighty-sixth and One hundred and twenty-fourth New York Volunteers have been removed from their position in rear of the woods to the rear of the second line of works, near Fort Sedgwick. Nothing further of note occurred since my last report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General DE TROBRIAND,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send a large regiment (not less than 250 men) to Fort Stevenson, on the high ground near the Williams house, and a small regiment to the work on the plank road near the Finn house, known as Fort Blaisdell. These troops will put the forts in repair under direction of the engineers, and will afterward be required to keep them in order. Please report the number and commanders of the garrisons.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired during yesterday and last night. A picket-line was established last night in front of Fort Dushane, covering the Halifax road and extending to the Vaughan road on the right, connecting with the pickets of the Ninth Corps. A force was thrown into Fort Davison and outposts

established in front of that point for its protection, and also for the protection of the corps train. A deserter from Sixteenth North Carolina Regiment was received last evening. He will be sent up at once.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 14, 1864—4 p. m.

General S. W. CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

We just heard a gun in the direction of your lines. The commanding general desires to be informed of the cause of the firing. Please answer at once by telegraph, as the general is about leaving camp.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864. (Received 5 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have ascertained the cause of the explosion to be a shell lying in the road not far from Fort Dushane. A large fire has been raging all day in the timber, and as it spread found this shell in its path.

For Brigadier-General Crawford:

Respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

We have heard several explosions to the north, northeast of us. Have you heard anything in relation to them?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 14, 1864—1.45 p. m. (Sent 1.50 p. m.)

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The explosions you allude to we take to be the firing of the gunboats up the river. We have received no information upon the subject, however.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
October 14, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

You will reoccupy the position held by your command before the movement, relieving such of General Weitzel's command as were placed there during your absence.

By order of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My losses yesterday foot up as follows: Killed, 3 officers, 33 men; wounded, 14 officers, 296 men; missing, 1 officer, 23 men; aggregate, 18 officers, 352 men.*

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Kautz reports to me the following casualties on the 13th: Killed, 2; wounded, 29; missing, 13; aggregate, 44.†

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Shall my troops take the position they occupied before Terry's reconnaissance?

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 14, 1864. (Received 9.40 a. m.)

Brevet Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

General Terry will reoccupy his old position. You will withdraw your troops which were sent there as fast as relieved by him.

By order of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* But see revised statement, Part I, p. 147.
† But see revised statement, Part I, p. 148.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

Michie has just left to fix things. I believe that if they mean to do anything at all, it is to release their men at Dutch Gap. Our gunboats should be put in position there at once. If they attempt that hill on my left, I think they will have a hard time.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864—10.20 p. m.

General BUTLER:

There is unusual commotion in the enemy's line in front of Fort Harrison. Trains and troops seen moving toward our right from pontoon bridge. Commands of rebel officers distinctly heard. I have sent a staff officer to keep close watch and report the whole truth about the matter.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864. (Received 11.45 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

The movement reported a short time since is to the enemy's left.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864. (Received 7.50 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

General Weitzel has two regiments in reserve, and one of them, the Ninth Vermont, numbers 600 men. I think this will be large enough to do what you wish. Shall he send this one, or two?

PETER S. MICHIE,
Lieutenant, U. S. Engineers.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 14, 1864.

Lieutenant MICHIE:

I think that one would do, but does General Weitzel desire to weaken his reserves so much? There is no trouble on the right. This, if done at all, is some devilment on the left—either our cattle, or bridge at Aiken's, these headquarters, your Cox's Hill fort, or Dutch Gap. It is possible that they mean to seize and fortify, under cover of their boats, the hill to the left of Weitzel's line. You and Weitzel will make such dispositions as will take care of all of us.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 103. } *October 14, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel Patterson, Second New Hampshire Volunteers, is hereby temporarily assigned to the command of the Third Brigade of this division.

By command of Brig. Gen. Gilman Marston:

GEORGE A. BRUCE,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
No. 9. } *In the Field, October 14, 1864.*

The First Maryland Cavalry, Colonel Evans commanding, and the First Mounted Rifles New York Volunteers, Colonel Sumner commanding, will constitute the Third Brigade of this division. Colonel Evans, of the Maryland cavalry, will assume command of the brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Kautz:

THEO. H. SCHENCK,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *October 15, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Scouts of the enemy are cutting the wire between Powhatan and Jamestown about as rapidly as we can put it up. I am determined to stop this or clear out the country. To effect this object I wish you would send a regiment of cavalry. Let them go to Powhatan in the morning. I will send from here my escort company to go from there with them, and will send instructions by them. The escort knows the roads and country.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 15, 1864—8 p. m.

The foregoing dispatch is transmitted to Brigadier-General Gregg, who will, in accordance therewith, send a regiment of cavalry, to be at Fort Powhatan to-morrow morning, to join the escort of the lieutenant-general commanding, and be governed by the instructions there received.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

OCTOBER 15, 1864.

Memorandum of General J. G. Barnard, chief engineer:

I have studied carefully the whole problem, and of the different operations which suggest themselves I cannot convince myself that there is any one offering chances enough of success, save that of waiting for an increase of the army, until we can get a marching column of 40,000 men. I cannot believe now that there is any chance of surprising Richmond. If we had promptly withdrawn and (apparently) given it up and thrown

our forces off to the left, we might, perhaps, have repeated with better knowledge what failed on first attempt. The enemy is now too much on his guard. The assault in front of Bermuda Hundred seems to me a very doubtful affair, unless we are sure that the enemy is in exceedingly small force. I should look upon the most practicable point to be from the center and the right, simply because the rebel lines are near (about half a mile), and because from our lines we have free egress. To attack between Swift Creek and Ashton Swamp requires a march of two miles after emerging from our necessarily narrow outlet. On this center of his lines the enemy can, in two or three hours, bring every disposable man from each end of his lines to meet our attack. Hence, unless we can carry the lines at once, we cannot do it at all. In the present state of military and political affairs it is better to do nothing until our forces are much more adequate than they are now to effect decisive results. At present everything is well enough, and Richmond must ultimately fall, unless the course of things is changed by a disaster which would strengthen the hands of the peace and "cessation" party. If it were concluded to postpone any decisive operation for some weeks there is one thing that might be done: that is, close up our lines of investment. Much as has been asserted about the uselessness of our artillery fire, I cannot believe that 100 guns enfilading the enemy's lines and firing into the town can be without great effect. By extending our lines 500 yards westerly from Fort Davis we should have emplacement for guns, which would enfilade and take in reverse the whole rebel line facing us, from Fort McGilvery to Fort Rice. Continuing this line a little south of west we would strike our new lines beyond Fort Wadsworth. This would actually shorten our front, but it is not in this relation I speak of it. It would enable us to bring a destructive artillery fire on the enemy's lines, and would compel him to keep a great many more men in Petersburg than he now does, thus diminishing his power of opposing us elsewhere.

Respectfully,

J. G. BARNARD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, October 15, 1864. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

Colonel SHARPE,
Provost-Marshal, City Point:

All of Pickett's division and Thomas' brigade are in our front between the Appomattox and James. The four regiments that were on the north side have gone there, and all lie in reserve in rear of the Howlett house battery.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp and Assistant Provost-Marshal.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 15, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain PAINE:

With the exception of nine wagons moving westward at 8 a. m. on Boydton plank road, we have been unable to detect any moves or changes from this station.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant Signal Corps:

Sergeant Carothers reports all quiet. No change. Holman says it is too foggy for observations. Jordan reports a small party of enemy at work on new fort.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 15, 1864—4 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

During the day men were seen drilling in the vicinity of fort, 30 degrees east of north. At 4.15 p. m. the section of artillery that was lying in this front was removed. Men carry camp-poles, &c., westward along their works.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 15, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

At 8 a. m. nine wagons moved westward on Boydton plank road. During the day men have been drilling in the vicinity of fort, 30 degrees east of north. Otherwise all has been before reported.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

SQUIRREL LEVEL SIGNAL STATION,
October 15, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

No change visible in the enemy's line on this front to-day. Smokes, indicative of large camp, seem at same point as reported yesterday, on plank road bearing north 15 [degrees] west. Twenty-five wagons seen near toll-gate on Boydton plank road, moving in direction of lead-works.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 15, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that signal stations report this evening all quiet. The station near the Jerusalem plank road reports that at 5.30 p. m. there were indications that the enemy's camps of about two brigades west of Weldon railroad and to the right of large fort were about to be broken up, although the tents were still standing and no movements had yet taken place. The station near the Friend house

reports that the enemy are extending and strengthening work just above Fort Clifton. The station at the Avery house reports small parties at work to-day between the Crater and point in front of Fort Sedgwick.

The following messages were intercepted:

5.10 A. M.

Cclonel B.:

The following observations were made from the station in front of General Steuart's brigade. Regiments of infantry went up the river, going to the front on the north side; wagons passed on same road going in same direction; one regiment of cavalry drilling in rear of the upper breast-works; the dredging-machine still at work near Dutch Gap. I also observed from Dunn's this afternoon the following: One regiment of infantry passed open space going to the front in Chesterfield; gun-boat above pontoon. This message was delayed last night by the fog.

J. Q. E.

(Same to A. B.)

10.30 A. M.

Colonel B.:

All quiet this a. m. Gun-boat at the pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 348. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, October 15, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

18. The leave of absence for twenty days granted Brig. Gen. I. Vogdes, U. S. Volunteers, in Special Orders, No. 280, October 8, 1864, from headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, is hereby extended five days.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT, VA., *October 15, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Armies of the United States:

SIR: I desire to lay before the lieutenant-general commanding a statement in relation to the great want of officers in the Engineer Brigade under my command, which, notwithstanding the repeated efforts made by myself, and seconded by his own approval, as also that of General Meade, still continues, to the great detriment of the efficiency of these two large regiments. The Fifteenth New York Engineers, really a battalion of three companies, formed in June, 1863, of three years' men of a two years' regiment, had two companies added to it during the winter and spring. These five companies, all full, with about 150 men each, are now with these armies; one company detached from these headquarters to the bridges, of Deep Bottom, with two officers only, one, with two officers only, detached in charge of the corps bridge trains of General Meade's army, and three companies are here in camp.

These three companies have three lieutenants detached to take care of recruits (referred to hereinafter), and these now have but four company officers present for duty with these 600 men. In addition to this, there is now another company of 150 recruits sent to this regiment, but it has not a single company officer for or belonging to it. The Fiftieth New York Volunteer Engineers, of twelve companies of 150 men each, is full and has been so for some time past, and still there have been sent here by officers at Elmira, N. Y., and at Washington, about 943 men for the Fiftieth New York Regiment. And with these men there are, as I am informed, three persons having commissions to the Fiftieth Regiment, which at the time of issue at least, if not now, was in excess of the organization, and three other persons only who have not yet, but expect commissions. The facts in brief, therefore, are that there now are seven companies of 150 men and 43 surplus men here, or about 1,100 men in all who have not a single commissioned officer properly belonging to them to care for their discipline, clothing, or other requirements; and if these extra men were transferred to the Fifteenth Regiment, as authorized by the lieutenant-general, there will then be required for these, twenty-eight company and two medical officers, a colonel, lieutenant-colonel, and two majors, in all thirty-four officers, to duly care for these men. Now, in the anticipation of this state of things, I have made repeated efforts, which I am gratified to feel have been sanctioned by the commanding general for the past four or five weeks, to have some of these officers provided for and commissioned by the Governor of the State of New York. On the 13th of September I forwarded a letter through yourself to Lieutenant-General Grant on this subject, recommending such officers as I thought worthy of promotion. This I have understood was at once recommended and forwarded by the lieutenant-general. On the 21st of September I made a statement of the case, which I have reason to believe was laid before Governor Seymour by an officer of this regiment. On the 24th I addressed another letter, with recommendations, to General Meade, which I understood was approved and forwarded, through the Adjutant-General's Office, at Washington, to the Governor; and on the 27th, on my addressing a letter to General Barnard, he wrote one to the lieutenant-general recommending the colonel and lieutenant-colonel proposed by me, which letter I understood was favorably indorsed and forwarded to Governor Seymour, and still, since the last application of nearly three weeks ago, no official response has reached here from the Governor of the State of New York. In this state of things I would respectfully ask of the lieutenant-general such action as he may deem proper and fitting under the circumstances, aware as he will be of the great importance for the early efficiency of these men, that their proper officers should be at once appointed for the care of their personal and public property, discipline, &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

During the past night the enemy have been working on their lines in my front. They have perfected a line near the Crater a little in rear

of the old line, and seem to be building a work to flank their lines in front of Fort McGilvery. The supposed position of the working parties was shelled all night at intervals. The enemy show unusual vigor in strengthening their lines. New and strong fraise can be discovered opposite Fort Morton.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 15, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Sent 11 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Second Corps:

Your dispatch in reference to the new works and projects of the enemy has been referred to Major Michler, acting chief engineer, who has been directed to make examinations and report. I hardly think we shall have the time, if we had the men, to erect the new works indicated by you. Can you spare any working parties from your corps?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864. (Received 11.25 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I suppose I could furnish small working parties, but the commanders now think their men are worked unusually hard. They are furnishing some men daily, building a corduroy road from Jones' house to Avery's house and defensive works along the lines. There are a good many recruits in the command whom we are trying to drill, and I have not allowed them to be worked within the last few days on that account.

Very respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the changes in the garrisons of the inclosed works on this line directed in Special Orders, No. 277, current series, from headquarters Army of the Potomac, were made during the night. The following changes in commanding officers became necessary by the discharge and muster-out of Captain Ketcham, Sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, and Major Larkin, Fifth New Hampshire, respectively: Maj. W. A. Crafts, Fifth New Hampshire, to command Fort Stedman; Capt. Victor D. Renwick, Sixty-fourth New York, to command Fort Haskell. The names of commanding officers of Batteries 11 and 12, left blank in order above mentioned, are Lieut. M. Murphy, Sixty-ninth New York, commanding Battery 11; Lieutenant Sweeney, Sixty-ninth New York, commanding Battery 12; the One hundred and eleventh New York, Captain Murdock, garrisons Battery 14.

Very respectfully,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HDQRS. FOURTH BRIG., FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864.

Captain DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with the requirements of circular of this date from the headquarters First Division, I have the honor to report the numbers, positions, &c., of my reserves, as follows:

Command.	No. of muskets.	Position.
148th Pennsylvania Volunteers	182	Rear of Fort Stedman.
116th Pennsylvania Volunteers	108	
66th New York Volunteers	46	
7th New York Artillery	372	
Total	708	

From this reserve a detail of 100 is required each day for picket.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ST. CLAIR A. MULHOLLAND,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 15, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following changes in the lines of this division: The Fortieth New York Volunteers (First Brigade), numbering 15 officers and 236 enlisted men, are occupying the works on the plank road near the Finn house, known as Fort Blaisdell, under command of Major Cannon; the Eighth New Jersey Battalion (Third Brigade), with the exception of one company previously detached to Fort Davis, numbering 40 officers and 536 enlisted men, occupies Fort Stevenson, on the high ground near the Williams house, under command of Col. John Ramsey.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
R. DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the enemy has thrown up some additional works, consisting of a line of rifle-pits extending from the Crater to the large work near the railroad. Yesterday a working party of 300 or 400 came out in front of Battery 14, but was dispersed by the artillery fire. An irregular fire was kept up last night from Lieutenant Roder's battery in Fort McGilvery on the work that the enemy is erecting in his front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in front of this corps during yesterday and last night. Heavy artillery firing and a good deal of musketry continued at intervals during the night. It sounded far to our right.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: It will be necessary you should extend your line covering the intrenchments to Battery 24. For this purpose you may reduce the garrisons of Forts Wadsworth and Dushane to 300 men each. I would also like a small force of one or two companies kept in Fort Davison to keep the work in repair, and see that the abatis and other works are not destroyed.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
October 15, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Our signal station on the Church road reports the removal of a section of the enemy's artillery from a point near the R. Jones house, and was discovered by the felling of timber by the enemy yesterday.

S. W. CRAWFORD.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General BAXTER,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you relieve the pickets of the Ninth Corps in front of Fort Dushane. You will relieve from the Halifax road, half way between Fort Dushane and the fort next on the right.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report all quiet along our lines during the past twenty-four hours. Four deserters came in during the day, two from the Fourth South Carolina Cavalry, Dunovant's brigade, two from Sixty-second Georgia, Dearing's brigade.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 15, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Ninth Corps:

I find Crawford has men enough to cover the gap on his right, so that I shall not require you to extend any to the right. It would be well to get some reserve if you can by withdrawing troops from such parts of your intrenched line as will admit of their being spared.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to apply for authority to organize an additional brigade in this division. The division, as now organized, consists of eleven regiments and one battalion (this latter being about equal in strength to some of the regiments), thus constituting two brigades. The number of men present for duty in the division is 4,337. This number will be increased to 5,000 by mounting the Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry. In the ensuing thirty days the strength of some of the regiments will be reduced by reason of expiration of term of service, but the mounting of other regiments of dismounted cavalry will keep the strength of the division to 5,000 men for duty, and when all are mounted its strength would reach 6,000. This division would well organize into three brigades. Each brigade would be composed of a proper number of regiments and have efficient strength.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES,
Commanding First Brigade, Second Division:

GENERAL: In compliance with instructions received from headquarters Army of the Potomac, you will send a regiment of your brigade at an early hour to-morrow morning to Fort Powhatan. At Fort Powhatan the regiment will be joined by Lieutenant-General Grant's

escort company, and the commanding officer will receive his instructions there. The enemy's scouts are constantly cutting the telegraph wires between Powhatan and Jamestown, and it is intended that your regiment, together with the escort company, shall drive them out of the country. The regiment must go supplied with three days' rations and two days' forage, and should leave camp at 5 o'clock in the morning.

By order of Brigadier-General Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
October 15, 1864.

Capt. A. H. BIBBER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report all quiet along my picket-lines during the day. A scout was sent out seven miles to the right of the stage road, it having been reported that two regiments of the enemy's cavalry were in that vicinity; they found, however, no traces of any force there, and could not learn that any had been there. Mrs. Brockwell, a loyal citizen, as appears from her papers, sent in word to Major Beaumont, First New Jersey Cavalry, commanding picket-line, that on the 2d or 3d of this month three men took her husband away and that she could gain no information of him until yesterday, when she found him and his servant man both murdered, with their heads severed from their bodies, about three miles beyond our outpost. His crime was that he had taken the oath of allegiance some time ago and had drawn rations from our forces at City Point. Major Beaumont sent out a patrol and discovered the bodies as represented and had them buried.

Respectfully,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 16, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to the lieutenant-general commanding.

The authors of this fiendish outrage being unknown, it is impossible to punish their crime as it deserves, but it is respectfully suggested the attention of General Lee be called to this diabolical act as not believing such conduct can be either known or sanctioned by the Confederate authorities. Some action may be had on their part to prevent similar occurrences in future.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 15, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at James River tower reports that "the fort with two salient angles on Chaffin's farm, second I think from

Fort Harrison to enemy's right, has had but an embrasure in each outer face; another has been cut in one of the inner faces. They are at work at one through the other. Enemy at work on both sides of Cox's Ferry as usual."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SIGNAL STATION OF OBSERVATION,
In Front of the Left of the Tenth Army Corps Line,
October 15, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieut. WILLIAM P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy has displayed great activity to-day in strengthening their breast-works and placing abatis all along their line. The rebels commenced throwing up another new breast-work this afternoon, joining an old rifle-pit, which touches the south side of the New Market road near a white painted building. About 150 men were seen at work upon it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL BRODIE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army,
Commanding Signal Detachment, Tenth Army Corps.

(Copy sent to General Butler 8.30 p. m.)

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 132.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, October 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. Charles K. Graham, U. S. Volunteers, is, in addition to his other duties, hereby assigned to the command of all the troops belonging to this department occupying the lines between the James and Appomattox Rivers, or stationed on the south bank of the last-named river, including the garrison of Redoubt Converse, and the First Connecticut Artillery. Commanding officers will report to him without delay.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 15, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

Colonel ABBOT:

I think that the wharf at Aiken's Landing will bear the 100-pounder gun, and will send some engineers down there to strengthen it in case it is not. I will want all of the 4½-[inch] rifles at the Water Battery. I should like to have the platform for the 100-pounder sent over to the redoubt as soon as possible. I got home late last night or I would have sent sooner.

PETER S. MICHIE,
U. S. Engineers.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *October 15, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Train:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy fired several shots from their Coehorns to-day. The range is so great, however, that they appeared to fall at random. More attention was paid our batteries than usual, dropping most of their shells in their vicinity.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864. (Received 8.40 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

The officer of the day of the corps informs me that deserters who came in to-day report that the enemy were re-enforced by a division last night.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 20. } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 2D DIV., 10TH A. C., *October 15, 1864.*

I. Maj. George B. Dyer, Ninth Maine Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty as acting assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters and will report to his regiment for duty. The colonel commanding takes this occasion to bear testimony to the ability and gallantry with which Major Dyer has always performed his duties, and to express his regret that Major Dyer's well-deserved promotion prevents his being retained on the brigade staff.

II. First Lieut. and Adjutant H. S. Sanford, One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers, is hereby announced as acting assistant adjutant-general of this brigade and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Col. Louis Bell, commanding brigade:

[G. W. HUCKINS,]
Lieut., Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 15, 1864. (Received 12.40 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

I think the best way to prevent the rebel gun-boats from attacking our left or Dutch Gap is to put torpedoes in the river at the left of our picket-line. If this is done, the rebel flag-of-truce boat will have to be notified not to come down to Cox's Landing, and the prisoners will have to be transported through the left of our line.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. KAUTZ'S CAVALRY DIVISION,
No. 10. } *In the Field, October 15, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel Patton, of the First New York Mounted Rifles, is hereby assigned to the command of the dismounted camp of this division.

By command of Brigadier-General Kautz:

THEO. H. SCHENCK,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 16, 1864—12 m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Major-General Hancock reports the enemy strengthening and adding to his works on his (General Hancock's) immediate front. General Hancock last night directed his batteries to shell at intervals the enemy's working parties. General Hancock likewise reports the enemy as throwing up works on the left bank of the Appomattox between Petersburg and Fort Clifton. General Hancock is of the opinion these works are designed for offensive movements looking to a crossing of the Appomattox on our right flank. I have directed Major Michler to examine into this matter and report, but am at present of the opinion these works are more likely to be defensive and to guard against such movement on our part, particularly if there is anything in the prevailing opinion the enemy are preparing to abandon the south side of the Appomattox. Quiet prevails on the left of our lines. The defensive works are nearly completed. I regret to have to report a continuance of desertions to the enemy from this army. Five are reported as having deserted last night from the Second Division, Ninth Army Corps, and three on the 14th instant from the Second Division, Second Army Corps; the latter, I regret to say, were old soldiers. Generally these desertions, which of late have become quite frequent, have been confined to newly arrived recruits, and mostly substitutes and foreigners. A regiment of cavalry was sent this morning to Fort Powhatan in accordance with your instructions received last evening. A reconnaissance made by General Gregg on the 14th instant in a southerly direction failed to obtain any intelligence of previously reported movements by the enemy's cavalry. They ascertained, however, that the enemy's guerrillas had murdered a Mr. Brockwell and his servant, residing just without our picket-lines, for no other reason than that he had taken the oath of allegiance to the United States and drawn provisions from the commissary to feed his destitute family. The authors of this barbarous outrage are unknown and cannot therefore be punished as their disgraceful crime merits. The victim's headless body was found by our people, brought within our line, and buried.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
October 16, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Five deserters, representing Harris', Sanders', and Wright's brigades, of Mahone's division, came into the lines of the Second Army

Corps last evening. There has been no change in the position of Mahone's division except that it moved a little to the left day before yesterday, to fill the space vacated by Wise's brigade, which has all or part of it withdrawn from the front. No indications of the arrival of any of Early's command or Whiting's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 16, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that the signal station near the Jerusalem plank road reports this morning that the camp of the enemy reported last evening as indicating a breaking up has settled down to their former quiet. The other stations report all quiet. The station at the Friend house reports that the enemy made some progress last night on their new fort in front of Fort McGilvery.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 16, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain PAINE:

With the exception of an engine going west on the South Side Railroad at 7.15 a. m. no movements or changes have been detected from this station.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 16, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

An unusual quietness has been observed throughout the enemy's camp to-day. Much less than the usual amount of travel has appeared on the Boydton plank road.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864.

Lieutenant STRYKER:

Holman reports all quiet this p. m. He intercepted the following messages:

OCTOBER 16—4.50 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

—— pieces of artillery have just passed open space going toward front in Chesterfield. They came from direction of Bermuda Hundred.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

OCTOBER 16—9.30 a. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The enemy's camp to the left of open space to our left of Cobb's has been removed. Gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

OCTOBER 16—12.20 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of infantry drilling in open space to our left of Cobb's. About 400 head of cattle just passed open space going to the front in Chesterfield.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

Jordan reports a new fort in progress about thirty rods to our left of the one reported yesterday. It is smaller than the other. No change this p. m.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant:

Captain Thickstun and Sergeant Carothers report all quiet this p. m.

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER:

General Hancock saw a rocket thrown up this evening from near Meade's Station. He wishes to know if it was from any of the signal corps. Have you authorized or do you know of any rockets being sent up last night or this evening?

P. A. TAYLOR,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in my line since last report. Firing was kept up against the enemy's new works at irregular intervals during the night. Four deserters came in during the night—three were from Harris' brigade and one from Wilcox's old. They had nothing new.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 16, 1864—12 m. (Sent 12.30 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Major Michler will to-day make an examination in reference to the subject of your dispatch of yesterday. I am inclined to the opinion the enemy's works on the left bank of the Appomattox are defensive and erected with a view to guard against a movement on our part in that direction. An idea very generally prevails, derived from the reports of deserters, contrabands, and refugees, that the enemy are preparing to abandon their lines around Petersburg south of the Appomattox. Though not yielding myself to this opinion, yet if any such intention either exists or has been mooted, it would be a legitimate consequence on their part to strengthen their works both above and below Petersburg on the left bank, as the result of such a withdrawal would undoubtedly be followed by an attempt on our part to cross the river. Major Michler is directed to examine such parts of the river as would offer facilities for crossing and see what works, if any, on our part are necessary to check any such movement.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A man came over from the enemy to-night claiming to belong to the band of the Fifth Michigan Cavalry. He says he was captured near Spotsylvania about the 15th of May and has escaped once or twice. Finally he got on rebel dress and was conscripted and sent here to the Twenty-fifth South Carolina. He does not appear to have much information. Says the enemy were fortifying at Danville when he passed through; also that, as far as he could judge, the troops opposite are in a demoralized and despondent condition. He has seen the gallery of the mine reported, and says they are still at work on it, but he does not know whether it is more than a countermine. To-night just at dark, as I was riding in rear of the Dunn house, a rocket was thrown up from a hollow not far off, so as to show plainly to the other side of the river. I was unable to find out anything about it. It is also reported to me by officers that one was thrown up last night from the rear of Fort Rice or Sedgwick. My signal officers know nothing of it. I mention it to you, not understanding it myself.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on the line during the past twenty-four hours. Lieutenant

Roder continues to fire during the night on the enemy's new work in front of Fort McGilvery and reports that he annoys the enemy's working parties very much.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864.

Lieut. JOHN W. RODER,
Commanding Battery K, Fourth U. S. Artillery:

LIEUTENANT: The major commanding instructs me to inform you that he directs you to keep up an irregular fire on the work the enemy are erecting in your front as heretofore ordered, and to continue this fire every night until further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 16, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the breast-work built to connect Fort Sedgwick with Fort Davis, in direct line parallel with the plank road, has been nearly finished last night, and I do not see any disposition to tear it down and make the connection in a different way, as directed by the major-general commanding Second Corps. I have waited at Fort Sedgwick for Captain Benyaurd, of the Engineer Corps, and left word for him that I would like to see him at my headquarters, but he has not reported so far. He is the officer who took upon himself to alter the plans approved at first, and to have the work made in the most useless, not to say objectionable, way. I respectfully request, therefore, that positive orders be given to him, the work leveled, and a new connection built between the battery on the right of the plank road and the breast-works already existing across the nearest point of woods, as intended at first.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired in front of this corps yesterday or during the night. It was very quiet during the last twenty-four hours. A detail of 600 men was at work yesterday on the new redoubt in General Griffin's front.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 258. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *October 16, 1864.*

The following dispositions are ordered, and will be at once carried into effect:

I. Brigadier-General Griffin will extend his line from where it connects with the Ninth Corps to a point half way between the Squirrel Level road and the Vaughan road.

II. Brigadier-General Ayres will hold the line from General Griffin's right to Fort Wadsworth.

III. Brigadier-General Baxter will hold Fort Wadsworth and the line from thence to Battery 24.

IV. The garrisons of Forts Wadsworth and Dushane will be reduced to 300 men each. A small force of two companies from the Third Division will be stationed at Fort Davison.

By command of Brigadier-General Crawford:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report all quiet along my lines last night. Five men are reported as having deserted from Second Division, this corps.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report that a scouting party sent last night to Temple's, on the plank road, found in that vicinity about seventy-five of the enemy's cavalry. The enemy generally have a picket-post at that point. The officer commanding the regiment on picket, from which the scouting party was sent, reports that the rebel pickets were driven off and his party remained at Temple's until after daylight. Nothing new on any other portion of the cavalry line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry is mounted and will join this division to-day. I therefore request that another regiment be sent to report at the depot near City Point. I would recommend that the Twenty-fourth New York be sent if it can be as well spared as any other regiment.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA CAVALRY,
October 16, 1864—7 p. m.

Capt. JOHN B. MAITLAND,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Brig., Second Div., Cavalry Corps:

CAPTAIN: In obedience to orders received from Colonel Smith, I directed Captain Snyder to take his squadron and move down the plank road to the Proctor house and find out what force was in that vicinity. He found no pickets on his way out, but a heavy blockade just this side of the forces in the hollow. It was dark when [he] arrived there, and he went no farther. On his return, soon after he had passed the road leading off to the right, he was attacked by a small party coming in on that road. Several shots were exchanged, but no casualties. He reports no indications of a large force in that vicinity.

Respectfully, yours,

J. K. ROBISON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Comdg. Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 294. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, October 16, 1864.*

I. Six companies of the Forty-first U. S. Colored Troops, having reported for duty in this department, will proceed to Deep Bottom and report to Colonel Rand, Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, commanding at that point, relieving the One hundredth New York Volunteers. The One hundredth New York Volunteers, on being relieved, will proceed to the front and report to Brevet Major-General Terry, commanding Tenth Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
October 16, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL:

The lieutenant-general commanding directs me to say that, having been first assigned according to your brevet rank as major-general, you will take command of the Army of the James in General Butler's absence.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 16, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The Secretary of War and myself will start immediately for Aiken's Landing. We take no horses with us, and therefore request you to meet us at the landing.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Your dispatch received; I start at once for Aiken's Landing.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *October 16, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report considerable Coehorn firing by the enemy to-day; no damage done. With your consent shall place Lieutenant Pardee, assisted by Lieutenants Lewis and Woodruff, in charge of the work at Cox's Hill, and remain at Dutch Gap myself until the armament is entirely removed. They are all competent, faithful officers, and I can visit the fort once or twice a day in person.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, October 16, 1864—9.18 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Tenth Corps:

General Butler went this evening to Fort Monroe, leaving a written order for me to take command of this army during his absence. Believing that you ranked me, I telegraphed to General Grant about it. He directs me to take command, saying that I now rank you because I was assigned to duty in my brevet rank before you were. I accordingly assume command.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
October 16, 1864. (Received 10.20 p. m.)

Major-General TERRY,
Tenth Corps:

I agree with you in all your views, and sincerely hope you will appeal the matter and have it settled. I stated these views to General Butler in person and to General Grant by telegraph, but both decided otherwise. You understand fully that I feel that I am thus placed in a very disagreeable position.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 16, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the James:

COLONEL: The Twenty-fourth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers is a regiment whose history does great honor to the State which sent

it to the field. For discipline and courage it has been equaled by few, surpassed by none of the regiments with which I have served. It is now very much reduced in numbers, and will be still further reduced by the expiration of the term of service of the men. I know of no prospect of it receiving recruits. It seems to me that it would be a great misfortune that such a regiment should disappear, for I believe that one man placed in it and imbued with its spirit would be of more value than two men placed in many regiments, even among those which are called good. I earnestly desire that an effort should be made to fill its ranks, and for that purpose I recommend that Col. F. A. Osborn be detailed to proceed to Massachusetts to confer with the local authorities and take such means to procure men as he may find to be best.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., October 16, 1864.

Col. H. M. PLAISTED,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you throw up a new line of works from the right flank of the redan you are now working on to the angle in front of the One hundredth New York Volunteers, thereby cutting off the salient at the road which passes out at your front. You will leave a roadway as at present, using your own judgment in the work.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 16, 1864.

Col. JAMES SHAW, Jr.,
Commanding Seventh U. S. Colored Troops:

COLONEL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to call your attention to the following extract from your report of the operations of your command on the 29th of September last:*

I was then directed by the general commanding to form "in right into line" on the right of the road and in a direction oblique to it, a slight descent in the ground partially covering the line, then to charge and take an earth-work some three-quarters of a mile in our front. Before the line was formed this order was countermanded, and I was directed to send out four companies as skirmishers for the same purpose.

The brigadier-general commanding has no recollection of having countermanded the order first mentioned by you. The only subsequent order from him was given you by Captain Bailey, his assistant adjutant-general. Captain Bailey made a memorandum. The following is a copy:

The general commanding directs you to advance with your whole force and attack the work in your front, which is firing. You will throw forward four companies of your command as skirmishers.

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* See Part I, p. 772.

I am also directed to call your attention to the following extract from your report of operations on the 30th of September:

At 1.30 p. m. we again moved to the left to the support of the Eighteenth Corps, taking position between a battery on our right and extending to the left, opposite the house.

General Birney's orders to you were to relieve the left of General Paine's command, of the Eighteenth Corps, taking position in the trenches on the right of the Forty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops. The position held by you as described in your report was near the extreme right of General Paine's line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. BAILEY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL BRIGADE, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA.,
October 16, 1864.

Lieut. C. H. CURTIS,
Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers:

LIEUTENANT: I am directed by Major-General Butler, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina, to thank you personally, in his name, for the vigilance, promptness, and energy displayed by you in causing the arrest of one Kidder, who obtained access to our lines by passing himself off as a major in the service of the United States. Under the pretense of securing and sending home the remains of a gallant officer who fell in the charge upon Fort Harrison, from whose afflicted father he had received $100 for that purpose, he had devoted himself industriously to acquainting himself with the distribution of our forces and the position and armament of our batteries. From the shifts he resorted to, now representing himself as belonging to a certain regiment, now as on duty in charge of a portion of the line, with sword and sash on, to delude the unsuspecting, we have reason to believe that he designed evil to our cause. This has been averted by your timely action. Being on duty in the quartermaster's department, and not supposed to be giving particular attention to the action of officers apparently on duty, your shrewdness in detecting this imposter, if not a traitor and spy, is all the more commendable. It is with real pleasure, therefore, that I tender you the approbation and warm thanks of General Butler, and congratulate you upon the favorable notice your services have received from department headquarters.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. POTTER,
Colonel Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, October 16, 1864. (Received 9.20 p. m.)

Brigadier-General KAUTZ:

In accordance with orders from Lieutenant-General Grant I hereby assume command of this army during General Butler's temporary absence.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

FORTRESS MONROE, VA., *October 16, 1864—3 a. m.*
(Received 7.10 a. m.)

Maj. THOMAS T. ECKERT,
Washington, D. C.:

Have just arrived. Find dispatches, one from General Thomas, two from Stevenson, one from Augur. Shall proceed immediately to City Point.

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 17, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

The Secretary of War and Secretary of the Treasury, with a number of other gentlemen, will leave here for your headquarters at 9.30 a. m. this morning.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserter from Forty-fourth North Carolina, MacRae's brigade, of Heth's division, came into the lines of the Ninth Army Corps last evening. Reports no change in the enemy's position on their right. He brings a repetition of the rumor that all or part of Whiting's division has lately arrived at Stony Creek. Can give no facts to substantiate it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 17, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Carothers reports all quiet; no change. Jordan reports a camp of about two regiments infantry southwest of city disappeared last night. Working on new fort last night, but not this a. m.

THICKSTUN.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 17, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

About 200 men were drilling during the a. m. near the fort on Boydton plank road; 2 p. m. a train of five wagons moved westward on Boydton plank road; otherwise no movements have been visible from this station.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 17, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

At 8 a. m. about twenty-five beeves were driven westward on Boydton plank road; at 9 a. m. a large working party was engaged constructing a very strong abatis before works near Boisseau's house; 2 p. m. a train of five wagons passed westward on Boydton plank road. About 200 men are drilling near fort on Boydton plank road.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

SQUIRREL LEVEL SIGNAL STATION,
October 17, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

A party of about thirty men have been at work on enemy's fortifications about half a mile east of toll-gate on Boydton plank road. At 10 a. m. observed a train of sixteen wagons moving westerly on Boydton plank road. No further changes noticed.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
October 17, 1864—6 p. m.

Capt. C. L. DAVIS:

No change in enemy's lines on this front observed this day. Twenty wagons seen moving east and west on the public road to-day. All quiet in enemy's camps.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that the signal stations along our front report all quiet this afternoon. The station near the Church road reports that at 9 a. m. a large working party was engaged constructing a very strong abatis before work near Boisseau's house on Duncan road. No other changes are reported.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 281. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 17, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. The Twenty-fourth Regiment New York Cavalry, now dismounted and serving as infantry in the Ninth Army Corps, will proceed with as

little delay as practicable to City Point, and report at the dismounted cavalry camp near that place for the purpose of being mounted, and the regiment is transferred to the Second Cavalry Division.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 17, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

There is nothing new to report this morning. The enemy continued work last night on the fort in front of McGilvery.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 17, 1864—10 a. m. (Sent 10.20 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

I am just advised that the Secretary of War is about visiting my headquarters. I shall be pleased to see you here at once. If we have left on your arrival I will endeavor to notify you of our movements that you may join us.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

P. S.—Probably by telegraphing you can join the train at Meade's Station, near my old headquarters.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 17, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that fire was kept up last night as usual from Fort McGilvery on the work which the enemy is putting up in its front. It was unusually quiet yesterday on the lines. No artillery firing except that above mentioned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 17, 1864.

Lieut. JOHN W. RODER,
Commanding Battery K, Fourth U. S. Artillery:

LIEUTENANT: The major commanding directs me to call your attention to the order sent you last night directing you to keep up fire on the work in your front every night until further orders. No firing has

yet been heard to-night (7.30). He desires an explanation of this, and that the order be strictly carried out in future. The time when the fire is most necessary is before the moon rises.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 17, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to request that an engineer officer be directed to sink shafts in Forts McGilvery and Stedman, with a view of detecting any attempt at mining by the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 17, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that everything was unusually quiet in my front yesterday and last night. One deserter from Sixteenth North Carolina was received and forwarded. The following dispositions were made yesterday in the position of the troops of this corps: The First Division to occupy the line from the right of the Ninth Corps to a point half way between Squirrel Level road and Vaughan road. The Second Division to extend from the right of the First Division to Fort Wadsworth. The Third Division to garrison Forts Wadsworth and Dushane, and occupy the line from Fort Wadsworth to Battery 24; also to keep a post of two companies in Fort Davison.

For Brigadier-General Crawford, commanding corps:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 17, 1864.

General S. W. CRAWFORD:

We have just finished a new redoubt on the right of my front line near the junction with your left. The battery intended for this redoubt was posted a few days since in Vaughan redoubt and one between it and Fort Dushane. Being short of artillery for the occupation of all works along the line, I would be obliged to you if you could relieve this battery so that I may put it in our front line. Colonel Tidball, our chief of artillery, has conferred with Colonel Wainwright on the subject, who thinks that a battery can be spared for the purpose.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 55. } HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS, *October 17, 1864.*

The general commanding is pleased to make known to the command that the appointment of brigadier-general by brevet has been conferred by the President upon Col. E. M. Gregory, Ninety-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, and Col. James Gwyn, One hundred and eighteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanding, respectively, the Second and Third Brigades in the action of the 30th ultimo. These individual marks of distinction are not only worthily bestowed, but are evidence that the gallantry of our little command has been appreciated.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 17, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General PARKE:

I have just been notified that the Secretary of War is about to visit these headquarters. He may perhaps desire to inspect the lines. You will, therefore, please notify your several commands to be ready and appear under arms in the vicinity of their camps and the trenches. More specific notice of time will be given if practicable.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to Brigadier-General Crawford.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 17, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs me to say that there is no need of keeping your command longer under arms, as the Secretary of War has returned to City Point.

S. F. BARSTOW,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: In answer to your letter of the 15th instant, I am instructed by the commanding general to say that you are authorized to organize your division into three brigades whenever, in your judgment, the effective strength of the division will warrant such an arrangement.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 17, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The following message just received from Cobb's Hill:

Ten freight and three passenger cars loaded with troops toward Richmond; regular train.

VAN VLECK,
Lieutenant and Acting Signal Officer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 17, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer at Cobb's Hill reports:

Six passenger and five freight cars heavily loaded with troops toward Petersburg—regular train; the train from Petersburg passed at the usual time this a. m.; one train to Petersburg last night; 11 a. m. three freight and two passenger cars with a few passengers to Petersburg; 2 p. m. three freight and two passenger cars with a few passengers toward Richmond.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 17, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Army of the James:

Is General Order 132* designed to place my whole command of the Siege Artillery under General Graham, or, as heretofore with General Ord, only that portion in the district named? One company, First Connecticut Artillery, is north of the James, and seven others are with the Army of the Potomac. Since my first orders on May 17, I have reported the whole Siege Artillery direct to department headquarters, and the officers commanding subdivisions of my command have reported their subdivision to their local commanders. The same system is used for my command serving with the Army of the Potomac. It greatly facilitates business. I would respectfully request that it may continue as heretofore. Please answer as soon as convenient.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *October 17, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT, *Commanding Siege Artillery:*

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the usual amount of Coehorn firing by the enemy to-day, with the customary uninjurious effect.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

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* Of October 15, p. 243.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 17, 1864. (Received 7.50 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH:

The following dispatch is sent for information of the major-general commanding:

SIGNAL STATION OF OBSERVATION,
In front of the left of the Tenth Army Corps Line, October 17, 1864—7 p. m.

Lieut. WILLIAM P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Signal officer at the above station reports the enemy active in strengthening and increasing the number of their lines of defense. Wagons loaded with timber are continually moving to a formidable-looking work located to our left of Fort Johnson. New breast-works have been thrown up in the rear of Fort Johnson and fronting toward James River. An embrasure has been cut in the traverse on the right in Fort Johnson, and a stockade for sharpshooters is also being erected in that work. Another line of abatis has been made, running out from this fort at about an angle of 45 degrees from a general line of their works in our front. One gun visible at Fort Gilmer. A battery of four pieces, four horses to each piece, came down New Market road at 2 p. m. and took position behind the new breast-work near the road. The line of fire of these pieces in their present position is a flanking one. About 200 negroes have been at work all day on the line of breast-work running from Fort Gilmer to New Market road. Three six-horse and three four-horse wagons with infantry guard from Richmond to our left, via the New Market road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PAUL BRODIE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
October 17, 1864—7.55 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Tenth Corps:

Does Brodie's dispatch indicate to you anything more than that the rebels are strengthening their position in your front?

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 17, 1864. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General WEITZEL:

Nothing more than that. For several nights past he has made reports of what has been seen from the station, and I have forwarded them whether they seemed to me important or unimportant.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., October 17, 1864.

In compliance with General Orders, No. 132, headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Army of the James, I assume

command of all the troops belonging to this department occupying the line between the James and Appomattox Rivers, or stationed on the south bank of the last-named river, including the garrison of Redoubt Converse and the First Connecticut Artillery. All official communications and reports previously forwarded to department headquarters will pass through these headquarters.

R. Dale Benson, first lieutenant and aide-de-camp, is announced as acting assistant adjutant-general.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *October 18, 1864.*

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

An order is now being issued attaching all the new organizations now serving with General Benham to the Army of the Potomac.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Four deserters received to-day represent Ransom's and Gracie's brigades, of Johnson's division, and Cooke's and Archer's brigades, of Heth's division. The position of their brigades is shown on the returned map. Two regiments of Wise's brigade are detailed for building two forts in the rear of Ransom's brigade, on which they are at work at present. All the brigades are located on the returned map with considerable exactness, excepting, perhaps, the brigades of Davis, MacRae, and Lane. They are, however, approximately located. No reliable news from Whiting's division. It cannot have arrived in this vicinity without some definite information concerning it by this time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 18, 1864.

Lieutenant STRYKER:

Jordan, Strong, and Holman report all quiet. The same reported from Sergeant Carothers last night, but was left in my tent and I did not notice it until this morning.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 18, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

All quiet.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

P. S.—Jordan reports nothing new to-day from Avery house. Fifteen wagons were reported moving north from Petersburg. At the Crater men very busy moving back and forth, apparently carrying something, and fresh dirt being thrown up.

THICKSTUN,
Captain.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that the signal officer with the Fifth Corps has condensed the following from the reports from the stations in front of that corps:

The enemy's line of breast-works along the Duncan road, near J. Boisseau's house, has been abandoned, the men in it moving forward about 250 yards to a new line on the right of a heavy work in front of that house, moving the abatis from the old line to front of new one. The enemy's picket-line near the Fisher house was relieved at 5 p. m. by a force of 150 men, and each post has six men in it. The usual number of wagons and horsemen passing on Boydton plank road. Unusually quiet in all the enemy's camps on this front to-day.

DAVIS,
Captain.

The other stations report all quiet this afternoon. The following messages were intercepted:

10.25 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

After my report was sent off last night the following movements were observed: Ten wagons passed going toward Fort Harrison; fifteen going in opposite direction. Three pieces of artillery passed going to front on the north side of the James. This morning, on account of fog, I could make no observations.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

1 P. M.

Colonel B.:

Four pieces of artillery drilling in field rear of Battery 5. Ten wagons passed through same field going to City Point.

J. Q. E.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 282. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 18, 1864.

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5. Bvt. Brig. Gen. E. M. Gregory having reported at these headquarters in compliance with part of Special Orders, No. 107, of October

18, 1864, from headquarters Armies of the United States, is assigned to duty with the Fifth Corps, and will report for further instructions to the commander of that corps.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *October 18, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

Since my report of the 10th instant the Two hundredth Pennsylvania Volunteers has been ordered to report to General Butler, commanding, and left on the night of the 13th. Three companies of the Eighth Delaware reported on the 11th, with 254 men and 9 officers; five companies of the Sixty-first Massachusetts reported on the 12th, with 468 men and 16 officers; five companies of the Thirty-ninth New Jersey reported on the 17th, with 490 men and 17 officers; six companies of the One hundred and eighty-eighth New York reported to-day, the 18th, with 430 men and 20 officers; making in all about 4,400 men, besides the Engineer Brigade.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of the troops of this command since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 18, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: Fort Blaisdell having been finished, a small detail from the regiment in that work can be sent to complete Fort Patrick Kelly, if some one is sent to direct it.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
October 19, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

Captain Dexter, Fiftieth New York Volunteer Engineers, has been ordered to repair to Fort Patrick Kelly to take charge of the completion of that work. He will require a detail of 400 men for two days, and will be ready to commence work this afternoon.

N. MICHLER,
Major of Engineers, U. S. Army.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 18, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that about noon yesterday the enemy's mortar batteries opened on Fort Sedgwick and Battery No. 20. This fire was replied to with rapidity and accuracy by our mortars at that point, we appearing to have a decided advantage on this part of the line. About 8 p. m. the mortar batteries at Fort Sedgwick, Battery 20, and Fort Morton were ordered to open, and for an hour the firing was quite heavy along the line. Lieutenant Roder continues to fire from Fort McGilvery on the work being put up in his front with evident effect, as no increase in size is visible, and it seems to be much torn up by our projectiles. The enemy reply heavily.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 18, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that Fort Blaisdell is fully completed and ready to be armed with artillery. Fort Patrick Kelly is not finished. The parapets are but partly constructed on two sides, and the work seems to be abandoned for the present. I respectfully submit that the Fortieth New York Volunteers may easily furnish a fatigue detail to finish the work, as there is nothing more to be done at Fort Blaisdell. On the front line, the new defensive line in the rear of Fort Sedgwick is nearly finished, and extends to the left side of the plank road so as to enlarge that part of the works and to add considerably to its strength for defense. There are still some bomb-proofs to be leveled outside, which will be done, I have no doubt, as soon as the intrenchment is completed. The straight line from Fort Davis to Fort Sedgwick has been leveled last night down to the left of the plank road, according to orders from Major-General Hancock. To-night the connection between Ricketts' battery and the breast-works on the right will be much advanced, if not completed altogether.

Respectfully submitted.

R. DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my command yesterday or during the night. A detail of 600 men were at work during the day on the new redoubt on the left of Griffin's division.

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Nothing unusual along our lines. Three deserters came in during the past twenty-four hours from the First, Seventh, and Fourteenth Tennessee.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 205. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, Va., October 18, 1864.

1. In pursuance of paragraph 5, Special Orders, No. 264, current series, from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the detachment of the Third New Jersey Cavalry is hereby relieved from escort duty at these headquarters and will at once proceed, under charge of Lieut. J. S. Hough, to join their regiment serving in the Middle Military Division. The transportation of the detachment will be turned in to Maj. W. H. D. Cochrane, assistant quartermaster Ninth Army Corps. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

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By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Poplar Spring Church, Va., October 18, 1864.

In compliance with provisions of paragraph II, General Orders, No. 15, current series, headquarters Army of the Potomac, establishing the "organization and equipments of pioneer parties" below cited, each brigade commander will at once make selections from his command, of an officer and non-commissioned officers and men, in the proportion required by orders above named, and will form them into a pioneer party for duty with his brigade. On completion of the organization, he will forward to these headquarters a report of his action, giving strength of his party, number and kind of tools on hand, and number of tools required to complete the equipment. Especial judgment will be exercised in the selection of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers.

II. The following is established as the organization and equipment of the pioneer parties of this army. The unit of organization will be by brigade. In each brigade one man shall be selected for every fifty men equipped for duty in it; for every ten men thus selected a corporal shall be detailed, and for every twenty a sergeant, and for each brigade, one lieutenant. For each division a first lieutenant of old date, or a captain, shall be detailed to command the pioneers of the division, who will be a member of the division staff, and be furnished with a horse and equipments by the quartermaster's department. The pioneers will be armed as they were in their regiments, and men and officers will be especially selected for fitness for the duty. They will be excused from all guard and picket duty, and from ordinary fatigue details. The tools will be furnished in the following proportions, viz, five-tenths, axes; three-tenths, shovels; two-tenths, picks; and be carried on pack-

mules during the march, each mule carrying the tools for forty pioneers. The quartermaster's department will provide the necessary mules and appropriate panniers for this service. Brigade and division commanders are directed to give special attention to the prompt formation and equipment of their pioneer parties. In camp, the pioneer parties will make the ordinary repairs to roads, build bridges, &c.; on the march, they will move at the head of the infantry column and promptly put in order all parts of the route where artillery and wagons have to pass, whether for their own command or troops to follow.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 2D DIV., CAV. CORPS,
No. 77. } *October 18, 1864.*

1. In pursuance of General Orders, No. 15, from headquarters Second Cavalry Division, dated October 18, 1864, the following organizations are hereby detached and will report to the commanding officer of the Third Cavalry Brigade without delay: First Maine Cavalry and Twenty-first Pennsylvania Cavalry Regiments.

2. The following-named officer is hereby relieved as acting provost-marshal, and will report to the commanding officer of the Third Cavalry Brigade for duty: Second Lieut. L. H. Daggett, Company L, First Maine Cavalry.

* * * * * * *

4. The command of the Third Cavalry Brigade having devolved upon Col. C. H. Smith, First Maine Cavalry, Col. M. Kerwin, Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, will assume command of this brigade.

By command of Col. C. H. Smith, commanding brigade:

JNO. B. MAITLAND,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BALTIMORE, *October 18, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

The Secretary of War, two weeks since, directed me to repair from Washington to Kentucky to bring to you 5,000 of the colored troops. I commenced organizing in that State about July 1. I designated six regiments. Two of them, the first organized, I filled up with recruits, and the number, when all join you, will be 5,500. Three of the regiments have detachments absent, but they will join in a few days. One regiment left here yesterday. Two others are here, and will leave to-morrow. The fourth should be here to-morrow, the fifth the next day, the sixth may be a week later, and will receive their additional equipments here. Physically they are the best I have organized, and I only regret they have not had more time for drill. I am satisfied they will do the work assigned them. Separation from records will delay for a few days the appointment of officers already designated; still there will be several vacancies. I will furnish roster of officers. You will wish to make the subsequent appointments, and this I would greatly prefer. I expect to have the pleasure of seeing you in a few days.

L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 18, 1864—10.10 a. m. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Colonel BOWERS, *Assistant Adjutant-General, City Point, Va.:*

I propose to disembark at Deep Bottom the colored troops coming to me. They will be there at a place easy of access, now healthy, and with good water and a fine place for drill.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 18, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

If you please to have one of your staff inspect our base hospital of the Eighteenth Corps at Point of Rocks, perhaps it will be seen that with small expense we can make a hospital that will serve all purposes of the field in connection with our hospital boats. It has provided for 3,000.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 18, 1864—9 p. m.

Brigadier-General PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General, City Point, Va.:

Please send me fifty more rebel prisoners to put in Dutch Gap. So many of these are taking the oath of allegiance that I want to keep the numbers full.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 18, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer stationed in front of the Tenth Army Corps reports for the day:

One gun drawn by twenty animals on Osborne turnpike toward our left; probably intended for the new work a little to the right and in front of Fort Harrison. The number of tents in his front is sensibly increased. On the line of breast-works between Fort Gilmer and New Market road a fatigue party of negroes is, as yesterday, at work. Wagons busily employed in hauling timber to this line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 297.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, October 18, 1864.

I. The commanding officer at Deep Bottom will direct the One hundred and fifteenth U. S. Colored Troops, and such other regiments of colored troops as may arrive hereafter, to encamp at Deep Bottom until further orders from these headquarters.

II. The commanding officer of the six companies of the Forty-first U. S. Colored Troops will report with his command to Brig. Gen. William Birney, commanding Third Division, Tenth Army Corps.

III. So much of paragraph I of this order as reads One hundred and fifteenth U. S. Colored Troops is hereby amended to read One hundred and seventeenth U. S. Colored Troops.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *October 18, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report but few shots from the enemy to-day. Mounted the second 100-pounder this p. m., and shifted the 4.5-inch guns to the firing trunnions. Have put the men in camp just outside the work for the present until the engineers have finished. Shall wait orders from Major Cook to open fire, I suppose. Major Ludlow was here to-day and yesterday, and wished me to do so forthwith; told him I did not deem it policy before the magazine was covered, and besides there was no ammunition for the pieces he desired to use. Couldn't the 8-inch mortars be removed on a barge?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: I think it would be well to cut roads from the intrenchments on your front perpendicularly back to the New Market road, and as far as it has not already been done to make a wide road for the movement of troops parallel to and about 100 yards in rear of your line. I think that about four perpendicular roads would be enough. Please hurry forward as fast as possible the completion of your line, the construction of the abatis, and the slashing in its front, so that the tools may be disposable for work elsewhere.

Very truly, yours,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 18, 1864.

First Lieut. W. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Corps:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that in obedience to orders from corps headquarters, I relieved Col. H. M. Plaisted, Eleventh Maine Volunteers, as officer of the day yesterday morning. The picket.

line along the entire front was visited by me and found in good condition, officers and men performing their duties well. By direction of the commanding general all fires along the line were ordered to be and were extinguished last evening. I have reference to the line of pickets and not of intrenchments. Nothing unusual occurred along the front of the corps during my tour. Camps are generally well policed and works being strengthened where necessary.

Respectfully submitted.

G. PENNYPACKER,
Colonel Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Deep Bottom, Va., October 18, 1864.

1. In obedience to Special Orders, No. 297, headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Major Weld, commanding Forty-first U. S. Colored Troops, will march his regiment forthwith and report to Brig. Gen. William Birney, commanding Third Division, Tenth Army Corps.

2. All details from the Forty-first U. S. Colored Troops are hereby relieved and will report to their regiment forthwith.

By order of Col. Arnold A. Rand, commanding post:

O. A. HENDRICK,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

The following is from Colonel Cole in regard to torpedoes:

They are near the river yet. Two, I think, are good; one, very large, which I am yet unable to get entirely out (though near shore), but shall soon have proper hooks made, and then think I can.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 18, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Chief of Staff, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina:

Colonel Cole says:

I have sent my quartermaster to get the hooks made by to-morrow 10 a. m. or 12 m., and then think I can raise it. I have dragged it within thirty yards or so of shore, but the bank is very steep. I broke all the wire and rope, so it is harmless. I learn from a deserter there is another 2,000-pound one lower down, but from want of proper drag hooks cannot yet find it. Will with new hooks. I hope to succeed to-morrow.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 18, 1864—11 a. m.

General KAUTZ:

I send you a marked article in the Richmond Enquirer,* which I think you had better read to your troops and ask them if they can't beat such cavalry as is therein described.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
Mrs. Gay's House, October 18, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Your note and the Enquirer received. There has been no difficulty about the enemy's cavalry, except to meet them, with us. It has been our fortune to be opposed to infantry, artillery, and breast-works, almost without exception. If you will engage to keep the infantry off us, we will try and take care of their cavalry. I have been quite unwell since I last saw you, but trust I shall be out again before any movement takes place. I send the requisition of the Fourth Wisconsin Battery; requisitions for ordnance with an indorsement as to the state of the battery.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 19, 1864—12 m. (Sent 12.10 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing particular to report. The artillery firing last night was the shelling of the enemy's working parties in front of our extreme right. I am going to-day to ride over the lines recently constructed in front of City Point, after which, if not too late, I shall probably be at City Point.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 108. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., October 19, 1864.

I. The following-named regiments and detachments are hereby assigned to the Army of the Potomac, and will immediately report to Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, commanding, for orders: One hundred and eighty-sixth New York Volunteers, Col. Bradley Winslow; Thirty-ninth New Jersey Volunteers, Colonel Wildrick; One hundred and eighty-eighth New York Volunteers, Major Davison, six companies; Eighteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, Capt. A. K. Potter, five com-

* Not found.

panies; Eighth Delaware Volunteers, Capt. R. J. Holt, three companies; Sixty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, Lieut. Col. C. F. Walcott, five companies.

II. Capt. A. Webster, assistant quartermaster volunteers, is hereby assigned to special duty at these headquarters.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Five deserters have been forwarded to-day from Archer's and Davis' brigades, of Heth's division, and Gracie's brigade, of Johnson's division. No change of the enemy's position on the part of the lines occupied by the above divisions. No knowledge of any arrivals from the north or south.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 19, 1864—9 a. m.

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Carothers reports all quiet and no changes in enemy's camps or lines. Jordan reports all quiet. He thinks the new forts of enemy are for mortars, as he saw no sign of embrasures.

THICKSTUN,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that the signal stations along our front report all quiet in the enemy's lines and no changes visible.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 19, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain PAINE:

About forty men were engaged at 8 a. m. laying wire obstructions before the enemy's abatis near Boisseau's. Works lying between fort 30 degrees east of north and lead-works are nearly evacuated. But few tents or men are visible in that vicinity.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 19, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

About 300 men have been drilling during the day in the vicinity of fort on Boydton plank road. At 5 p. m. a large regiment of infantry appeared on parade in works near fort on Boydton plank road.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

SQUIRREL LEVEL SIGNAL STATION,
October 19, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

Very quiet in the enemy's lines on this front to-day. At 11.30 a. m. observed two pieces of light artillery on Boydton plank road near toll-gate moving east; artillery drawn by mules.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
October 19, 1864—6 p. m.

Capt. C. L. DAVIS:

No change in enemy's line on this front observed this day. A few wagons seen moving east and west on Boydton plank road. All quiet in enemy's camps.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 39. } *October 19, 1864.*

The following instructions are published to correct existing irregularities in the details made in this army for special service and to insure greater accuracy in the reports and returns of the troops:

1. None but corps and division commanders will be permitted to order details which will take officers or men from their appropriate duties in their brigades, regiments, or companies, unless these constitute independent commands. Soldiers detailed as company cooks are an exception to this rule.

2. All orders for details for special service will be given in writing, and copies of such orders will, in all cases, be furnished the regimental or company commander concerned.

3. The detail of soldiers as clerks will be restricted as much as possible. It is believed that many men are permanently assigned to such duty whose services as clerks are but occasionally required. In such cases it is only necessary to excuse the men so employed from guard and fatigue duty, and they should not be accounted for as on special duty.

4. Whenever practicable all guards except provost guards will be relieved daily.

5. When a soldier, while detailed from his company, is sent to a hospital the surgeon in charge will make an immediate report of the circumstances of the case to the regimental or company commander, so that the history of the soldier may be kept up.

6. Officers and men on duty with a particular command, but who belong to an organization serving elsewhere in this army, will on the returns of such command be excluded from its strength and reported in red ink to prevent their being accounted for twice.

7. All officers and men who are reported on special, extra, and daily duty, or on detached service within the army, will be accounted for in figures on the back of the tri-monthly report rendered on the last day of each month in the manner indicated in the following form,* and the numbers given should correspond with those under the same heads on the face of the report.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 19, 1864—12 m.

Brigadier-General BENHAM:

I shall leave here at 12.30 on a train and get out either at Old Court-House or the nearest station, where horses can be got out of cars. I am coming to inspect your works and desire you would meet me on the line at the crossing of the railroad.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 19, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that during yesterday fire was kept up at intervals on the new works the enemy are erecting in front of Fort McGilvery and Battery No. 9. During the night the Coehorn mortar battery in Battery No. 7 opened on the work in front of Fort McGilvery at intervals, and Lieutenant Dauchy's Twelfth New York Battery and a section of mortars fired from Battery No. 9 on the new work in his front, for the purpose of annoying working parties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HDQRS. CONSOLIDATED BRIG., 1ST DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
October 19, 1864.

Capt. W. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the two deserters from the Forty-third Alabama Regiment, sent forward last night, came into our lines on the front of Fort Morton, and while on the way to the rear made some statement to the guard to the effect that they had been at work on a mine approaching our works not far from the point at which they came in. I respectfully submit this fact to the general commanding.

Respectfully,

GEO. N. MACY,
Colonel, Commanding Consolidated Brigade.

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* Omitted.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
No. 64. } *October 19, 1864.*

It is with profound regret that the brigadier-general commanding has to convey to this command the sad news of the death of Maj. Gen. D. B. Birney, after a brief illness, in Philadelphia. Nowhere such a lamentable loss will be more deeply felt than in this division, the glorious records of which are so much identified with the gallant services of the worthy successor of Kearny and Hooker. He died before the end of the struggle in which he took such a noble and conspicuous part; but his devotion to the country, his fidelity to duty, his gallantry in action, and his brilliant efforts for the triumph of the Union will remain among us as an example to follow, while his personal qualities will endear his memory among all those who served with him or under him.

By command of Brigadier-General De Trobriand.

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NOTE.—The above will be read at the head of every regiment in the command.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 19, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in front of this corps yesterday and during the night. No movement of the enemy perceptible beyond what was reported by the signal officers last evening. Six hundred men were employed yesterday on the new redoubt on General Griffin's left.

For Brigadier-General Crawford, commanding:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
October 19, 1864.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: My signal station on Church road reports as follows:

Works lying between fort 30 degrees east of north and lead-works are nearly evacuated; but few tents or men remain visible in that vicinity.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Fifth Corps.

(Same to Major-General Humphreys.)

CITY POINT, *October 19, 1864—6.50 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I have just received information that the enemy are undermining Fort Harrison. It would be well for General Weitzel to ascertain if this is so,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 19, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

It is impossible to undermine Fort Harrison from the conformation of the ground.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

PHILADELPHIA, *October 19, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Major-General Birney died at 10 p. m. yesterday. Funeral, Friday, 2 p. m.

CHAS. H. GRAVES,
Assistant Adjutant-General and Aide-de-Camp.

[Indorsement.]

Forwarded for the information of Lieutenant-General Grant.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

IN THE FIELD, *October 19, 1864.*

Hon. SIMON CAMERON:

MY DEAR SIR: Will you not come down and see me, wherever I may be, as soon as the election is over? I have something to say to you which I think may be for yours, mine, and the country's benefit, and who else do we care for? I congratulate the "chairman" on the success of the election. Let me know by telegraph when you intend to come.

Yours, truly,

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer in front of Eighteenth Army Corps reports for the day as follows:

Enemy clearing the woods in front of their rifle-pits on the left of Fort Johnson and placing abatis in front of Fort Henry. Palisades are being built in Fort Gilmer. Negroes at work on same line as reported yesterday.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 19, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer at James River tower reports for the day as follows:

Three heavy guns mounted in work to enemy's right of Cox's Ferry. Distance from ferry about 1,600 yards, direction from here (the tower) west-northwest, distant

about one mile and a half. Enemy placing rail abatis in front of rifle-pits connecting above and Cox's Ferry work. Think heavy guns have been mounted in work to their left of Cox's Ferry, as there is a screen of bushes where guns should be.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 19, 1864. (Received 7 p. m.)

Col. H. L. ABBOT:

Where is the 13-inch mortar? Is it where it can control the Chesterfield battery as well as near the Friend house? There is complaint from the Second Corps that the C[hesterfield] battery is very annoying.

H. J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 19, 1864—7 p. m.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

The 13-inch mortar is quite effective upon the Chesterfield batteries. It can be placed where it is safe as long as No. 4 Battery (Burton's) is held. This is now a closed work with an infantry support. The platform is all laid and the magazine made. The mortar can be removed in five hours any night to where the locomotive can take it. The present fire is reported to be in reply to our fire on the new work in front of Fort McGilvery. Shall I send up the mortar?

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 19, 1864.

Col. H. L. ABBOT:

Can you keep down the enemy's fire without the 13-inch mortar? If not, can you keep it down with that mortar? It is desirable not to bring it up if it can be avoided.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 19, 1864—11.30 p. m.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

The 13-inch mortar is very effective upon those batteries. It has been the problem ever since the army arrived to keep down their fire. It has never been entirely accomplished, and I do not believe it can be if the rebels are really bent on using them. They enfilade our lines and have so few men near them that no great loss ensues from a very heavy fire on our part. They have recommenced firing in order to stop our

fire on the new work in front of Fort McGilvery. I think they will continue it, more or less rapidly, until we stop, even if we double our present armament.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 19, 1864—7.20 p. m. (Received 7.30 p. m.)

Colonel ABBOT:

General Butler desires that you send to Cox's Hill to-morrow six 30-pounder Parrott guns. If you are unable to send 30-pounders send 20-pounders. They are to be used against the rebel gun-boats in the river early on the morning of the 21st. Please answer. A detachment ought to be sent to work the guns in case Captain Pierce has not enough men.

PETER S. MICHIE,
Lieutenant, U. S. Engineers.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 19, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant MICHIE,
Chief Engineer, Headquarters Army of the James:

How would it do to use Ashby's battery of four 20-pounder Parrott's and the three 4½-inch guns in Fort Brady? If it is for a temporary use I would decidedly advise this, as the pontoon bridge is so weak that it will be necessary to carry the guns by a barge and the labor would be unnecessary. If the guns are to be kept in position I can, of course, send them. Ashby's battery is with the Eighteenth Corps, and if not with its corps can easily cross the bridge. Please answer to-night.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 19, 1864—8.55 p. m.

Lieutenant MICHIE:

Ashby's battery is on the Bermuda front. His guns are near the signal tower on Appomattox River.

A. PIPER,
Colonel, &c.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 19, 1864—8.50 p. m.

Colonel ABBOT:

General Butler wishes to use ten guns in all; three in the new battery, four in another that I will build to-morrow, and three from the fort. Ashby's battery is on Bermuda front. They will do if some one will haul them over. What is wanted are guns and men to man them.

MICHIE,
Lieutenant.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 19, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

Brigadier-General GRAHAM,
Old Headquarters Eighteenth Corps:

General Butler desires to use several heavy guns for an especial service early in a. m. of 21st instant. If you can possibly spare Ashby's battery of four 20-pounders for that short service it will greatly help matters. Please let me know to-night.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding Siege Train.

OLD HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
October 19, 1864.

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT,
First Connecticut Artillery:

Ashby's battery can be spared for the service you mention. Please have the guns returned as soon as possible.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, October 19, 1864.

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you detail a competent officer to command the First Brigade, First Division, of your corps, and return Colonel Pond, Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, now in command, to his regiment.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 113. } *In the Field, Va., October 19, 1864.*

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III. The Forty-seventh New York Volunteers are hereby assigned as garrison for the new redoubt in the front of the Second Brigade. Capt. J. M. McDonald, commanding the regiment, will assume command without delay.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 19, 1864. (Received 3.35 p. m.)

Colonel KENSEL:

I understand that Colonel Potter is to be sent over here. Please ask the general to order Marston over there in Potter's place, and give me Potter to command my First Division. Please acknowledge receipt.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
OFFICE CHIEF OF ARTILLERY,
October 19, 1864.

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps:

SIR: I have the honor to report that by Special Orders, Nos. 97 and 104, of August 4 and 12, 1864, 181 enlisted men of the Fifth Maryland Volunteers were assigned to batteries of the corps in the following proportions: Battery L, Fourth U. S. Artillery, 31 privates; Battery B, First U. S. Artillery, 65 privates; Battery F, Fifth U. S. Artillery, 40 privates; Battery F, First Rhode Island Artillery, 20 privates; Sixteenth New York Battery, 25 privates. I am of opinion that it would be highly prejudicial to the interests of the service to return these men from the batteries with which they are now serving, except in the case of those assigned to the Sixteenth New York Battery. The batteries, except the one just referred to, are short of men, and constant requisitions are made on me by battery commanders for men to preserve their efficiency. The Sixteenth New York Battery has now men enough of its own for a four-gun battery. As the detachment of the Fifth Maryland serving with it have by this time become good artillerists, I respectfully suggest that they be assigned to Battery L, Fourth U. S. Artillery, which is losing men fast by discharges. I have the honor to state that, so far as I can learn, the men attached to the batteries are, with very few exceptions, satisfied with their condition.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. PIPER,
Colonel Tenth New York Artillery, Chief of Artillery.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 20, 1864—7 p. m.*
(Received 8.10 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I had a salute of 100 guns from each of the armies here fired in honor of Sheridan's last victory. Turning what had bid fair to be a disaster into glorious victory stamps Sheridan, what I have always thought him, one of the ablest of generals.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 20, 1864—12 m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

The quiet of the lines during the past twenty-four hours has been undisturbed except by the usual artillery firing in front of Second Corps. Four deserters came in during the night, who report nothing new. Some contrabands came in on the left this morning, who state there was to be to-day at 10 a. m. an assemblage of masters and slaves at Dinwiddie Court-House for the purpose of collecting slaves to take the places of teamsters and other detailed men in the army. On inspecting Benham's lines yesterday I found a battery organized from detachments of recruits and convalescents from various regiments in this army. This organization I understood was gotten up temporarily when a cavalry raid was anticipated and was formed with your sanction. As this contingency has passed and the men are wanted with their regiments

and the pieces required for existing organizations, I directed the men to be returned to their regiments and the pieces turned in to the ordnance officer, who will issue them to batteries requiring guns. As soon as General Benham's lines are completed, and the batteries of this army filled, I will send such batteries to arm the lines as may be necessary. This explanation is now made in case this subject is brought to your attention.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., October 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Your report of the 30th of September gives aggregate present for duty at 55,012; that of October 10, at 54,525; loss in ten days, from September 30 to October 10, 487. During these ten days the provost-marshal-general sent forward recruits amounting to 5,594. Adding these accessions to the loss above reported would make a loss of 6,081. Will you please inform me what has occasioned this serious diminution. Does sickness prevail to a large extent, or are many old regiments going out? Any information you can furnish on this subject will much oblige,

Very truly, your friend,

T. S. BOWERS,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 20, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have just returned to camp and received the glorious news from Sheridan.* To achieve such results after having met the reverse he describes, is one of the most brilliant feats of the war. I heartily congratulate you and him on the result.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following communication received this a. m. from Captain McEntee, in charge of the Information Department at City Point:

Messenger from Richmond states: "All roads leading into the city are protected by torpedoes. The iron-clad railroad battery was placed near the outer fortifications on the York River railroad last Sunday. None of Early's men have returned to Richmond, excepting those who have lost their arms. Pickett's division and Thomas' brigade are between the Appomattox and James."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

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* See Sheridan to Grant, October 19, 10 p. m., Vol. XLIII, Part II.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
October 20, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: The following information just received from Richmond agent is respectfully transmitted:

On all the roads approaching the city torpedoes are being laid and covered with dust. Cords 400 feet long are attached to the torpedoes and men secreted in the bushes pull the cord on the approach of an enemy. They are working on them night and day and already have them on some of the roads. They are also making and placing very ingenious torpedoes in the James River; something recently invented. It is reported that General Lee is determined to retake Fort Harrison. He is watching for a weak point that he may attack. It is generally believed he will attack very soon; some say to-day, October 19. The iron-clad railroad battery was placed on the York River road on Sunday last near the outer line of works.

The fortifications between Darbytown road and the river have been much strengthened. Informant estimates the force in and about Richmond (north of James) at about 20,000 men, and states that many of them will not fight. Attention is called to a remarkable article in the Enquirer of the 19th, advocating the conscripting of negroes for the military service. The paper has not been received here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 20, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain PAINE:

At 7.15 a. m. two engines passed westward on South Side Railroad. Owing to the fog and smoke we have been unable to see but little of the enemy's camps this morning.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 20, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

At 1.30 p. m. about 300 men were drilling near fort on Boydton plank road. At 3 p. m. seven wagon-loads of loose straw passed eastward on Boydton plank road. During the p. m. a small working party has been engaged in strengthening the abatis before work near Jones'.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

SQUIRREL LEVEL SIGNAL STATION,
October 20, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

Very quiet in the enemy's lines on this front to-day.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 20, 1864—6 p. m.

Lieutenant STRYKER:

All quiet from Carothers' and Jordan's stations. As the intercepted messages from Holman's station are unimportant, I do not consider it worth while to bother you with them unless you wish it. From the Avery house working as usual at the Crater is reported.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
October 20, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

No change in enemy's line on this front observed this day. The enemy relieved pickets on this front at 5 p. m. with a detail of about 200 men. All quiet in enemy's camps.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
City Point, Va., October 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: In accordance with the directions of the commanding general, I have the honor to submit an estimate of the least force, in my opinion, requisite for a temporary protection or defense of the redoubts and lines now being prepared under my direction for the protection of City Point. I have submitted the estimate in its details that, in connection with the plan of the lines, herewith also submitted, the commanding general may most readily judge as to the force that he would desire to place on these lines for this purpose. The additional force outside the redoubts appears to me, after the fullest reflection, to be of great importance, as otherwise in any attack upon the lines intermediate between the redoubts, especially if made at night, when the aim of the artillerists must be very uncertain, either the redoubts must be partially or wholly vacated to meet such an attack or there must be a disposable force besides the garrisons of the redoubts, to move wherever such an attack is threatened, to meet it. As the best solution of the matter of the bridge across the Appomattox, it has occurred to me, it must be perfectly satisfactory, at least for the connection of the depots at City Point and Bermuda Hundred, to have, if possible, a bridge and roadway within our present lines, and I therefore sent an officer to reconnoiter the opposite shore this morning, and he has just returned and reports that there is a point directly opposite the Nelson house (which you visited, on the banks of the Appomattox) from which a road could be made north, by a corduroy of one-quarter of a mile or a little more, for which there is plenty of material there, as he states. Such a position for a bridge, concealed as it would be from the direct view of the enemy and giving a much shorter communication between this post and the north of the Appomattox, for this point only, certainly would, in my opinion, be far preferable to the present site, while the debouche would be within my present lines of defense.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

Estimate of men and cannon required for defense of the line in front of City Point, cannon to have the usual number of artillerists.

The lines here about 17,680 feet in extent.

Redoubt.	Crest of redoubt.	Number of men.		Number of guns.	
		Minimum.	For more secure defense.	Minimum.	For more secure defense.
	Yards.				
No. 1	170	170	175	3	4
No. 2	227	250	275	4	5
No. 3	161	160	175	2	3
No. 4	328	350	375	3	4
On line 20–21					1
No. 5	181	185	225	3	4
At railroad south of No. 5					1
No. 6	113	100	100	2	3
Re-entrant angle at 35					1
No. 7	162	160	175	2	3
Line 37–38				2	2
Old Court-House	396	425	500	4	6
Salient on line 43–44					1
Total	1,738	1,800	2,000	25	38

And for better security against an attack on the lines between the reboubts for picket duty, &c., at least one regiment of 600 to 800 should be stationed about midway in rear of the lines north of the railroad, and another of about the same size in a similar position on the lines south of the railroad.

Respectfully submitted.

H. W. BENHAM,
Lieut. Col. of Engineers and Brig. Gen., Comdg. Defenses, &c.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 20, 1864.*

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 20, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that fire has been kept up during the past twenty-four hours on the new works which the enemy is building opposite our right. Mortars have been put in position by the enemy opposite Fort McGilvery and Battery No. 9, from which they fired a few shots last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS,
October 20, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of my tour of duty as corps officer of the day for the 19th instant: I visited the greater portion of the line and found the pickets properly posted and

vigilant. The connections between the divisions were perfect. I would recommend that the pickets be allowed to connect the pits with a small trench in the open field at the center of the line of the Third Division and on the left of the Second Division. It can be done by supplying the pickets with intrenching tools or by sending a small fatigue party at night.

Respectfully submitted.

B. R. PIERCE,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 20, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired in my front yesterday or last night. Two deserters from Twenty-sixth Mississippi were received and forwarded. Three hundred men were at work during the day on the new redoubt on left of General Griffin's line.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 20, 1864—10 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

We have just received four negroes who came this morning from near Stony Creek. They say that there is to be a meeting at Dinwiddie Court-House at 10 o'clock this morning to receive details of negro hands and teams from all the planters in the county. These hands are to drive teams, so as to put the white teamsters in the ranks These negroes are now on their way to your headquarters.

Respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing new along our lines. The right of our picket-line was advanced, occupying the Boswell house and more favorable ground. Two men from the Sixth New Hampshire deserted to the enemy during yesterday.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 20, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I am in receipt of a communication from General Lee, showing that prisoners of war set to work in the intrenchments have been withdrawn.

I will send you the communication to-morrow. It becomes incumbent on us, of course, to withdraw the prisoners employed in Dutch Gap Canal. Please withdraw them and have them forwarded to join the prisoners of war North.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 20, 1864—9.50 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

Your telegram concerning the official dispatch of General Lee, regarding the prisoners at work in the rebel trenches, is received. Orders have been issued relieving to-night the prisoners at Dutch Gap. A copy of the order will be sent you in the morning.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 134. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., October 20, 1864.*

It having been officially certified by General Lee, commanding Confederate forces, that the prisoners of war of this army put to work in the trenches near Fort Gilmer have been withdrawn, to be treated as prisoners of war, it is ordered that the prisoners of war of the Confederate forces put to work in the canal at Dutch Gap, in retaliation, shall be at once withdrawn and sent to Point Lookout, to be held and treated hereafter as prisoners of war.

Numbers of these prisoners having certified in writing to the commanding general their desire to take the oath of allegiance, because of the inhumanity of the Confederate authorities toward them, which application was declined lest it should be said that these prisoners took the oath of allegiance to the United States under duress, it is now ordered that so many of them as choose, after this order is read to them, be permitted to take the oath of allegiance, and be sent North, to be there found employment by the Government, as other prisoners of war have been who have returned to their loyalty to the United States.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 302. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., October 20, 1864.*

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5. Maj. L. L. Weld, Forty-first U. S. Colored Troops, will proceed to Philadelphia without delay and bring to this department the remaining companies of his regiment. Quartermaster's department will furnish transportation.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 20, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

It is not advisable to put the 13-inch mortar in position if as good results can be obtained from smaller ordnance more easily mounted. The enemy is very active on his lines, and it would be well to examine them to see if further maneuvers are necessary. When can you go on them again with me, or, after examining them yourself, see me? How comes on the report of the siege operations?

HENRY J. HUNT.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 20, 1864—9 a. m.*

Lieutenant MICHIE,
Chief Engineer, Headquarters Army of the James:

Please have the landing at Aiken's cleared by 3 p. m., as the guns will arrive then. Three 30-pounder Parrotts, Ashby's battery, will cross the pontoon bridge about the same time, probably. Please have guides ready to show the way for both.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

DUTCH GAP, VA., *October 20, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that previous to about 1 p. m. to-day the enemy fired quite rapidly at times, dropping many of their shells among their own men (prisoners) encamped near the canal; but few fell among the working party. Since 1 o'clock have been on duty elsewhere, and can, therefore, send you no correct statement of my own.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 20, 1864. (Received 9.50 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH:

I sent the body of Captain Quattlebaum to the rebel lines on the Darbytown road this afternoon. My aide who took it out tells me that there was loud cheering among the enemy while he was there. Very likely it was for the success which at first they obtained yesterday in the Valley, but it may have indicated a fresh arrival of troops. I repeat the fact for what it may be worth. The officer who met my aide belonged to the Sixty-first North Carolina Regiment.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 157. } *In the Field, Va., October 20, 1864.*

1. Brig. Gen. J. R. Hawley, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to temporary command of the Third Division during the absence of Brig. Gen. William Birney, U. S. Volunteers.

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By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: It having been brought to the notice of the major-general commanding that many regiments have not received the re-enforcements which have been forwarded from the draft rendezvous, and which have had ample time to reach them, he directs that you cause the commanders of those regiments to make immediate reports, showing the numbers which have been forwarded, the date of the departure, the number received, and the date of the arrival, together with any other facts which may be of value in this connection.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieut., Second U. S. Sharpshooters, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

(Same to Generals Foster and Birney.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 20, 1864.

Col. H. M. PLAISTED,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: In pursuance of instructions from headquarters Tenth Army Corps, the general commanding directs me to instruct you that in case of any alarm on our right the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers shall go to and garrison the redoubt beyond the church, repairing thence at once without waiting for orders other than per brigade headquarters, in case of a movement in that direction.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. S. FOSTER,
Commanding Second Division:

DEAR GENERAL: I think that your small redoubt should have a garrison of 260 men, the larger one of 440. This will give two ranks at the parapet and one-quarter of the whole number in reserve.

Very truly, yours,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TENTH CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., October 20, 1864.

Lieut. WILLIAM P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.:

SIR: I have the honor to report that I arrived here and assumed command about 3.15 p. m.—perhaps a little later than the major-general expected, but I was delayed a little by some business that could not well be turned over instantly. I find an order concerning a fatigue detail that failed to report promptly, and am informed that it has been attended to.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

I received the order about 2 p. m.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 20, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

W ll either the Sixth or Nineteenth Corps, after all their fights and their loss of general officers, be much of a re-enforcement anywhere now?

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

[Major-General WEITZEL:]

Not much.

B. F. B[UTLER].

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL DIVISION,
ARMY OF THE JAMES, DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, Va., October 20, 1864.

Maj. George B. Cook, First Connecticut Artillery, is announced as chief of artillery on the staff of the brigadier-general commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. Commanding officers of all batteries within the limits of this command will report at once to Major Cook, chief of artillery, at these headquarters.

By order of Brigadier-General Graham:

R. DALE BENSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 20, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Capt. G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.:

I desire very much six 12-pounder boat howitzers for a special service, with their equipments complete, as well for land as water. Please send them to me and I will forward any sort of requisition or receipt that the Navy Department shall think necessary.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *October 21, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I go out this morning to ride round the works west of the Weldon road. Will stop the cars at your station and go from there on horseback. If not otherwise engaged I would be pleased to have you ride with me.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 21, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Have received your dispatch and will be ready on your arrival to accompany you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 21, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
A. A. G., Hdqrs. Armies of the United States, City Point:

Have received your note of 20th instant. Our loss, 6,081 in the ten days ending October 10, may be accounted for as follows: Loss by discharge of regiments and individuals by expiration of service, 1,570. Casualties, killed and missing, including the killed and missing in the reconnaissance made by the Ninth Corps, September 30, but not accounted for in the report of that date, 1,840; regiments of dismounted cavalry transferred from the Fifth Corps to the Second Cavalry Division, dropped from the report of the former but through inadvertence not taken up on the report of the latter, 700; making in all 4,110. It is thought that the wounded during the ten days, the wounded in the above-mentioned reconnaissance, and the excess of men taken sick in the ten days over those returned to duty same period, will account for the remainder, 1,971, of the loss yet to be explained. I am unable at this moment to furnish the numbers required under each of these heads, but will obtain them if you desire it. The wounded in action are not specially reported in the tri-monthly reports, there being no column on the form for such reports.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND,
City Point, Va., October 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A communication has just been received from Lieutenant Wright, in charge of scouts at Washington, to the effect that no troops have passed over the Central railroad since last report. Early's forces are reported to be south of Strasburg. The conscription is being enforced to include boys twelve years of age. Loudoun County is said to have turned out 1,500 of these lads, who have been placed in the fortifications, and relieve men for field duty. Scouts who brought this

report returned from Falmouth yesterday. In addition to report made last evening, refugees from Richmond state that the York River railroad has been taken up from Tunstall's Station to within two miles of Richmond. On the railroad at its present terminus the enemy have an iron-clad mortar battery, or a mortar battery mounted on an iron-clad car. The following-named city battalions are now in the defenses of Richmond, and average about 250 men each, viz: Tredegar, Department, Navy, Arsenal, Armory, City, and Hensley's battalions. The places of many of these men have been supplied by negroes. There are 300 negroes employed in the Tredegar Rolling-Mills. Colonel Shields has charge of Camp Lee. He has between 3,000 and 4,000 men there under instruction.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 21, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain PAINE:

Ten wagons, apparently empty, have just passed westward on Boydton plank road. The usual quietude prevails throughout the enemy's camps.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 21, 1864—4.15 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

With the exception of the inspection of two regiments of infantry at 12.30 p. m. in the enemy's works near Jones', nothing of interest has been observed from this station since last report.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

SQUIRREL LEVEL SIGNAL STATION,
October 21, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

At 2 p. m. traced the smoke from an engine about half a mile on line of South Side Railroad moving westerly. A working party of about 150 men have been engaged this p. m. strengthening enemy's fortifications near toll-gate on Boydton plank road. A train of sixteen wagons observed on Boydton plank road moving west.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
October 21, 1864—6 p. m.

Capt. C. L. DAVIS:

No change in enemy's line on this front observed this day. A few wagons seen moving east and west on Boydton plank road. All quiet in enemy's camps.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 21, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Different stations report all quiet. Quite a number of gabions were taken into the Crater to-day. Another gun is being mounted at the Whitworth battery.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 21, 1864.

Major FISHER:

About 1,000 of enemy's infantry moving to our right on Richmond railroad.

JORDAN.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
October 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: A further reflection upon the position of the first salient south of the railroad (at Station No. 30) on the lines of defense here, leads me to the conclusion that gorge parapets had best be thrown up there to make it a redoubt (notwithstanding the slashing it can have in rear, which no other redoubt has). I therefore send the project* I propose to follow out there, which can readily be transferred to the plan I sent, and I would call this redoubt No. 6, and the lozenge redoubt at the south (the former No. 6) be No. 7. I also send the corrected estimate* necessary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 21, 1864.

General H. W. BENHAM,
City Point:

The commanding general directs that you order the One hundred and eighty-sixth New York and Thirty-ninth New Jersey Regiments to report to Major-General Parke, commanding Ninth Army Corps, and the battalion of the One hundred and eighty-eighth New York Regiment to report to Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Army Corps. These troops have been assigned to the corps indicated, and will join with as little delay as practicable. They can be sent up by railroad. The terminus of the road is very near General Warren's headquarters. If you will let me know when the troops for the Ninth Corps will leave City Point a staff officer will meet them at the Weldon railroad to conduct them to their destination.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 21, 1864—3 p. m.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

Please have the commanders of each of the regiments and battalions mentioned in the following order furnished with a copy of the order:

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 285. HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *October 21, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. The following-named regiments and battalions having been assigned to the Army of the Potomac by paragraph 1 of Special Orders, No. 108, of October 19, 1864, from headquarters Armies of the United States, will, until otherwise ordered, continue on duty with the Engineer Brigade, with which they are now temporarily serving: One hundred and eighty-sixth New York Volunteers, Col. Bradley Winslow; Thirty-ninth New Jersey Volunteers, Colonel Wildrick; One hundred and eighty-eighth New York, Major Davison, six companies; Eighteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, Capt. A. K. Potter, five companies; Eighth Delaware Volunteers, Capt. R. J. Holt, three companies; Sixty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, Lieut. Col. C. F. Walcott, five companies.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 21, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in my lines since last report.

WINFD. S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

I desire to be informed, since General Crawford has occupied the line up to Battery No. 24, whether I am to picket in his front, as I am doing now, or whether he is to relieve my pickets that are now covering his front.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 21, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I will mention the matter of pickets to General Meade as soon as he returns. I was absent when General Crawford extended to Battery 24, and do not know what directions were given him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 21, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I referred your dispatch relative to picket-line to the major-general commanding, and he informs me that it was not intended to change the point of junction of the picket-lines of the two corps—that is half way between Fort Alexander Hays and Fort Howard.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 21, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

GENERAL: The lieutenant-general commanding desires a formidable movement made to our left with a view of seizing and holding the South Side Railroad. For this purpose it is proposed to hold the line now held by your corps only with the artillery and garrisons of the inclosed works, the picketing to be done as far as possible by these garrisons. I desire to have your views as to the practicability and expediency of this operation, the number of men it will require to hold all the works, and such additional picketing as you may deem absolutely essential. It is, of course, to be understood that the project is based on the presumption that the heavy attack made on the enemy's right will compel them to employ all their available force to meet it, and we hold the line of redoubts only in such manner as to prevent an unobstructed movement on their part, or to check them long enough to enable us to re-enforce this part of our lines in case the attack on the left does not concentrate all their forces to meet it. I would be pleased to have your views, with the number of men and guns required to hold the line, and the number of men (and guns, if any) that would be available for operations on the left. All trains, battery horses, &c., will have to go inside the lines of City Point, which will also be held.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 21, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel MORGAN,
Assistant Inspector-General:

The commanding general directs me to hasten the completion of the fraise in front of your line. Major Beers, Fiftieth New York Volunteer Engineers, has been ordered to work three additional companies of engineer troops to assist him. Will you please have an additional detail of 700 men, making 1,000 in all, and thirty more wagons, making fifty in all, for day work; and 300 men, in addition to the 100 he has now, for night work. With these details he will probably be able to finish in two days and nights. I will then require details to demolish the old line.

N. MICHLER.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report of casualties occurring in this command during the ten days ending the 20th instant:

Command.	Killed.		Wounded.		Total.		Aggregate.
	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	Officers.	Men.	
Corps headquarters	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Engineer Battalion	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Artillery Brigade	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2	2
First Division	.....	5	.....	23	.....	28	28
Second Division	.....	6	1	19	1	25	26
Third Division	.....	10	.....	26	.....	36	36
Total	.....	21	1	70	1	91	92

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 21, 1864.

Brigade commanders will state below the number of men, inclusive of recruits (but exclusive of non-commissioned officers), in their respective commands, available for fatigue and picket duty, independent of the garrison in the different forts.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:
J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

First Brigade, 842; Second Brigade, 879; Third Brigade, 868.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 21, 1864.

Capt. J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that Captain Andrews, Twentieth Indiana Volunteers, and brigade officer of the day, having been directed by me to ascertain the exact condition of the enemy's rifle-pits on the right of the plank road at the place known as the Chimneys, has just brought in the following report: Since the Second Division has furnished the pickets in front of Fort Sedgwick, during the absence of our division, then engaged in active operations on the left of the army, the enemy has been allowed to build two or three pits in advance of his line on the right of the road, so as to obtain an enfilading fire at very close range on our pits across the road, which explains the recent

number of casualties on that point and may become of dangerous importance in case of an attack. These pits did not exist, and the enemy did not even attempt to establish them while my brigade picketed the opposite line. Now some additional works will be necessary for the protection of our men, and I would recommend some side pits, well covered by a strong parapet.

I have further to report that yesterday, as I am informed, a man from the enemy's line has been allowed to come in one of our pits near the Chimneys, and to remain there during one hour or more, probably collecting as much information as he could, either by personal observation or by a long talk with our men. I will immediately proceed to a strict investigation on the subject, and will prefer charges against the parties guilty of such a criminal dereliction of duty.

Very respectfully,

R. DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 93. HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 3D DIV., 2D CORPS, *October 21, 1864.*

I. Brevet Major-General Mott having assumed command of division, Brig. Gen. R. de Trobriand again assumes command of the brigade.

By command of Brig. Gen. R. de Trobriand:

JAMES M. LINNARD,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 21, 1864—9 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in front of this corps yesterday and during the night. Four deserters were received yesterday and forwarded. The engineer officer in charge of the new redoubt on General Griffin's left reports that work ready for occupancy.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
October 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report my return from leave of absence.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 21, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I have the honor to report quiet on my front during the last twenty-four hours. One man deserted from Twenty-ninth Massachusetts last night.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 21, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General PARKE:

I propose to inspect your lines to-day with Lieutenant-General Grant. I desire General Crawford to be at the Fifth Corps headquarters, and General Parke at the Pegram house redoubt.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to Brigadier-General Crawford.)

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, Va., October 21, 1864.

Brigadier-General DYER, *Chief of Ordnance, Washington, D. C.:*

GENERAL: I learn through Colonel Serrell that you have examined the guns made by Mr. Ames, of Falls Village, Conn., which are represented as being able to stand a very heavy charge, and, of course, having long range and large penetrating power. We have, within 1,000 yards of us, the enemy's powerful iron-clads, which we desire to drive away. That being so, I would be glad for a couple of the guns with appropriate ammunition. What would you say to one rifled, to use the Sawyer shell or solid shot? The objection to the use of that shell having heretofore been the weakness of the gun. One of these guns bored to 5.82, and using the solid Sawyer shot with the rings, I think, would be able to penetrate the six and eight inches of iron with which the Virginia and Richmond are clad. How early would it be possible for me to have the guns? Allow me to congratulate you upon your promotion, which, from all I hear, has been well earned.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October 21, 1864.*
(Received 10 p. m.)

General BUTLER:

Howitzers ordered from New York by express to Hampton Roads. I presume you wanted smooth-bores. At any rate I doubt whether we have six rifles to fill Graham's requisition. Anything we have in that line is at your service. Please declare those naval officers you sent up exchanged as soon as possible. They will fight better for their sojourn South.

G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 21, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer at Cobb's Hill reports that at 7 p. m. a balloon was seen on the enemy's lines bearing west-northwest from the signal tower; also a train of cars toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 135. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, October 21, 1864.*

SOLDIERS OF THE ARMY OF THE JAMES:

With deep grief from the heart the sad word must be said—Maj. Gen. David B. Birney is dead.

But yesterday he was with us—leading you to victory. If the choice of the manner of death had been his, it would have been to have died on the field of battle as your cheers rang in his ear. But the All-Wise "determineth all things well."

General Birney died at his home in Philadelphia, on Tuesday last, of disease contracted on the field in the line of his duty.

Surrounded by all that makes life desirable—a happy home, endeared family relations, leaving affluence and ease, as a volunteer at the call of his country—he came into the service in April, 1861. Almost every battle-field whereon the Army of the Potomac has fought has witnessed his valor. Rising rapidly in his profession, no more deserved appointment has been made by the President than General Birney's assignment to the command of the Tenth Army Corps. The respect and love of the soldiers of his own corps has been shown by the manner they followed him.

The patriot—the hero—the soldier. By no death has the country sustained a greater loss.

Although not bred to arms he has shown every soldierly quality and illustrated that profession of his love and choice.

It is not the purpose of this order, nor will the woe of the heart of the officer giving it, now permit him, to write General Birney's eulogy.

Yet even amid the din of arms, and upon the eve of battle, it is fit that we, his comrades, should pause a moment to draw from the example of his life the lesson it teaches.

To him the word duty—with all its obligations and incentives—was the spur of action. He had no enemies, save the enemies of his country. A friend, a brother to us all, it remains to us to see to it, by treading the path of duty as he has done, that the great object for which he has struggled with us and laid down his life, shall not fail and his death be profitless.

Soldiers of the Tenth Army Corps! Your particular grief at the loss of your brave commander has the sympathy of every soldier in the army. It will be yours to show your respect to his memory by serving your country in the future as with you Birney has served it in the past.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 136. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., October 21, 1864.*

In compliance with General Orders, No. 251, of August 31, 1864, from the War Department, and for the purpose of enabling courts-martial to be convened by the commanding generals of the troops embraced in the Districts of Eastern Virginia and North Carolina, respectively, they are hereby designated as separate brigades.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 138.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., October 21, 1864.*

It has been brought to the attention of the major-general commanding that certain persons who have incurred punishment at the hands of the military authorities in this department have subsequently obtained from officers of the command certificates, testifying to their innocence of the offense for which they were dealt with, or to their general good character and conduct, or criticising the course of proceedings.

Officers are reminded that in signing such certificates they presume to censure the acts of their superiors, and are thus guilty of flagrant disrespect and insubordination. The offense will in future meet with prompt and severe punishment.

It is believed that in most instances this error has been committed thoughtlessly, and upon the importunity of friends and associates. This order will in future furnish an answer to all such applications.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 21, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy opened to-day from a new position in an angle of the woods, some distance to their right. They used 8-inch mortars, but did no damage as I could discover. Placed one of the 4.5-inch guns in the sunken battery, in the ditch of Fort Brady, and threw a few rounds of percussion shell at them. Lookers-on stated that they saw eight men leave the hole by twos at our last shot. At all events, have heard nothing from them since up to this hour, 9 p. m. Mr. Woodruff had charge of the piece. Fired by order of General Butler. Received instructions late last night that the new battery was not ready to open fire on the gun-boats this morning. Expect an order to do so to-morrow morning. Lieutenant Michie called here to-day and said he found the embrasures as you stated. Think by changing some he can work six guns; no more.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you assign a garrison to the redoubt on your line near Four-Mile Church, if you have not already done so, placing a field officer in command. In case of action this officer will assume command of the artillery which may be in the fort in addition to the infantry, and he will be held responsible for the proper defense of the work.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieut., Second U. S. Sharpshooters, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

(Same to General Foster.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 115. } *In the Field, Va., October 21, 1864.*

I. The Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Coan commanding, are hereby assigned as the garrison of the redoubt on the front of the Second Brigade, Second Division, and will relieve the Forty-seventh New York Volunteers, Capt. J. M. McDonald commanding, without delay. Lieutenant-Colonel Coan will assume command of the work. Detailed instructions will be furnished Lieutenant-Colonel Coan during the day.

II. The Fourth New Hampshire Volunteers, Capt. I. W. Hobbs commanding, are hereby assigned as the garrison of the redoubt on the front of the Third Brigade, Second Division. In case of an attack, Maj. G. B. Dyer, Ninth Maine Volunteers, will at once assume command of the work. Detailed instructions will be furnished Captain Hobbs and Major Dyer during the day.

III. Maj. George B. Dyer, Ninth Maine Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the redoubt in the front of the Third Brigade, Second Division, relieving Capt. I. W. Hobbs, Fourth New Hampshire Volunteers. Until further orders the infantry portion of the garrison will consist of the Fourth New Hampshire Volunteers, which regiment will remain under direct command of Captain Hobbs, but subject to the orders of Major Dyer, as garrison commander.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 21, 1864.]

Maj. G. B. DYER,
Ninth Maine Volunteers:

MAJOR: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to forward the following instructions to govern you in command of the redoubt on the front of the Second Brigade, Second Division: The garrison of the work will not be changed except by order from these or superior headquarters, and you will not be required to furnish any pickets from your command. You will camp your regiment closely in rear of the redoubt, and will furnish guard to keep out stragglers, and will issue such instructions as will prevent any damage to the works by the men of your own or other commands. The artillery will be under your command only so far as will be necessary to preserve good order and cleanliness. In case of action you will assume command of the entire garrison and will be held responsible that the work is held at all hazards, or until ordered by proper authority to withdraw. All repairs on the works will be made by details from your command. You will cause a well to be dug inside the work without delay. All reports or communications will be forwarded through headquarters Third Brigade, and all orders, other than those relating to the defense and condition of the work, issued by the brigade commander will be respected as heretofore.

Respectfully, yours,

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Lieut. Col. W. B. Coan, Forty-eighth New York Infantry.)

HATCHER'S, *October 21, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The following dispatch just received from Captain Hallett, gun-boat Foster, who commanded the expedition to Smith's Point, sent out in retaliation of the capture of the light-house keeper:

I went to Smith's Point, up Coan River, and also Great Wicomico, besides several creeks. Had several skirmishes with the rebels and two smart little skirmishes—killed and wounded about thirty rebels; none of us hurt. Have one citizen and three other prisoners—one, I believe, a captain in the Second Georgia Regiment. The country is full of home guards. I killed the captain of one company.

WARREN HALLETT,
Captain, Commanding Steamer Foster.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 22, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain PAINE:

At 7.20 a. m. three engines moved westward on South Side Railroad; 8.30 a. m. five wagons passed westward on Boydton plank road. Distant cannonading is heard in the direction of Point of Rocks. No change of camp has become visible.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 22, 1864—4 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

At 1 p. m. wagons were seen passing westward on Boydton plank road; this is the only collection of transportation that has been observed. No changes of camp have become visible.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864.

Major FISHER:

No movements of any importance seen to-day. Three engines passed along the South Side Railroad this a. m. and one this p. m.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 360. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, October 22, 1864.

* * * * * * *

11. By direction of the President, Bvt. Maj. Gen. Gershom Mott, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to duty according to his brevet rank of major-general.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 286. } *October 22, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. The One hundred and eighty-sixth Regiment New York Volunteers, Thirty-ninth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers, and battalion (six companies) of the One hundred and eighty-eighth New York Volunteers, having reported for duty with this army, are assigned, the two former to the Ninth Army Corps and the latter to the Fifth Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGR. BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT, VA.,
October 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

I believe I have mentioned to General Meade verbally that at the time the Two hundredth Pennsylvania Regiment was recalled to General Butler's command the lieutenant-general directed me to inform him whenever the call for the regiments away from the lines of defense here should reduce them below about 2,500 men. I would mention that the orders for the withdrawal of the regiments yesterday now leaves, including the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Regiment, sent here by General Butler, and liable to be called for by him, as the respective reports show, about 2,592 effective men for duty, exclusive of the battery of artillery. I would state that the engineer troops now here present for duty, with arms, are about three companies only, including the portion of the pontoon repair company from the depot at Washington. The balance of the recruits here and one company of the Fifteenth are not yet armed. The arms for these men were repeatedly called for by me, but did not arrive here until the men had been set to continuous labor upon the fortifications; though I yet have a doubt if there is a single officer (except one for one company out of the seven)—there appears certainly not the pretense of an officer for four of these companies—who can, according to the rules, receipt for and be accountable for the arms, &c., of these companies, though I have proposed, if it is practicable, to have these men armed during the coming week.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

The only change that has occurred in my lines has been the removal of a part of General Miles' command between Forts Stedman and McGilvery to the new line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your confidential communication of yesterday calling upon me for my views as to the practicability and expediency of holding the line now held by this corps by holding the inclosed works only, the garrisons of these works furnishing the pickets as far as practicable. In reply I have to state that, in my judgment, it would not be wise nor safe to materially weaken or change the present picket-line. Until it is removed the enemy can never tell how strongly we are holding the main line, and should they drive in the picket-line the men by taking refuge in the rifle-pits connecting the inclosed works would assist much in repelling any attack. The daily detail for picket is now 1,610 men, with the proper complement of officers and non-commissioned officers. The river line from Battery No. 5 to Redoubt Converse is held by about 250 men, the remainder picketing to a point between Battery 24 and Fort Howard. I would propose, then, to allow in addition to the garrisons of all the inclosed works, a force of, say, 1,625 men for picket duty, to alternate with a like number from the garrisons in doing the picketing. The tabular statement herewith inclosed shows the number of muskets and field guns required, in my opinion, to hold the line with any assurance of safety.* The character of the line is such that nothing can make it entirely safe but the establishment of good reserves at certain points. Our lines are in such close proximity to those of the enemy that our artillery, on which the strength of the line depends, has not its full power. Neither are the different points of the line in mutual support. Were the enemy to break through at Fort Morton or the Hare house nothing could prevent them from obtaining possession of the commanding ridge on which the Friend, Dunn, and Avery houses are situated, and so compel the abandonment of the whole line, even as far as the plank road. It is to be regretted that this ridge, equally strong in front and rear, was not fortified. The enemy have followed a different plan from ours. The powerful works they have erected on the crest nearest the river hold by artillery the front line and prevent us from knowing the force there. The line between Fort Hays and Fort Howard is weak, and would be fatally so without a strong picket well thrown out. The strongest part of the line is now probably on the plank road—strong because the front line is subjected to the fire of Fort Davis. With the force exhibited in the tabular statement I think the line could only be taken at a costly sacrifice on the part of the enemy. I speak of an assault on the works, for if the enemy were to cross the Appomattox below Battery No. 5 (and a picket of 235 men could not long resist them) they would place our line in imminent peril. If operations toward the South Side Railroad should drain off a large portion of the enemy's force, the number of men mentioned in the table might be reduced by 1,500 men, the garrisons supplying the entire picket detail, which I would on no account materially lessen.

I have limited my observations to the question of practicability. Personally, I should prefer some other position than the charge of such an extended line, with no reserves, when everything depends on the good conduct of subordinates. If any change of the nature indicated is determined on, two or three days ought to be allowed for its execution,

* Statement not found.

that the troops may familiarize themselves with their new positions. It takes time to learn the line, and troops who know it are much better than those who do not. In addition to what I have said with regard to the picket-line, I may say that if only inclosed works are picketed the enemy might pass between some of the works at night without the knowledge of the garrisons, and when once through, they would be free to move, as none of the works are constructed to give an artillery fire to the rear.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I respectfully request that the Second and Third Brigades of this division, consolidated under Special Orders, No. 164, current series, from headquarters Second Army Corps, may resume their separate organizations and receive assignments of the necessary officers for the staff departments. I recommend that Lieut. Col. Denis F. Burke, Eighty-eighth New York Volunteers, may be assigned to the temporary command of the Second Brigade, if reorganized, until the arrival of an officer of higher rank, and that Col. George N. Macy, Twentieth Massachusetts, now commanding the Consolidated Brigade, be assigned to the command of the Third Brigade, if reorganized. The regiments formerly composing the Second Brigade—Sixty-third, Sixty-ninth, and Eighty-eighth New York—now number 856 enlisted men present; those of the Third Brigade—Seventh, Thirty-ninth, Fifty-second, Fifty-seventh, One hundred and eleventh, One hundred and twenty-fifth, and One hundred and twenty-sixth New York—number 1,900 enlisted men present.

Very respectfully,

N. A. MILES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report, for the information of the major-general commanding the corps, that since the Second Division has furnished the pickets in front of Fort Sedgwick, and during the absence of this division, then engaged in active operations on the left of the army, the enemy has been allowed to build two or three pits in advance of his line on the right of the Jerusalem plank road, so as to obtain an enfilading fire at very close range on my pits across the road, thereby causing a number of casualties daily at that point, and may be of dangerous importance in case of an attack. These pits did not exist and the enemy did not attempt to establish them while my division

picketed the opposite line. Now some additional work will be necessary for the protection of my men, and I have given instructions to have some side pits dug, which will be done as soon as practicable.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in front of this corps yesterday and during the night. Two deserters from Twenty-second North Carolina received and forwarded.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 22, 1864.

Major-General WARREN:

GENERAL: In view of our conversation this morning, I would like to know the number of men and guns it will require to hold the line of redoubts and inclosed batteries now held by your corps, including the minimum picket-line, which should be furnished as far as practicable from the garrisons of the works. It will probably be necessary to have a picket-line the whole front, who in case of being driven in could garrison the redoubts and more adjacent parts of the rifle trenches. In addition to the above, please let me know how many guns and men will be left available for other operations.

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 264. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864.

* * * * * * *

VI. Bvt. Brig. Gen. E. M. Gregory, having reported in compliance with paragraph V of Special Orders, No. 282, headquarters Army of the Potomac, is assigned to the First Division, and will report to the commanding officer thereof accordingly.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864—9.15 a. m. (Received 10.15.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual has transpired along our front line. The cavalry vedettes report quite heavy bodies of the enemy moving in their front between midnight and 2 a. m. I have sent out to ascertain more in relation to the report. Will forward as soon as received.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

I have inquired where the cavalry vedettes were posted and what direction the enemy were moving, infantry or cavalry, &c.

A. A. H[UMPHREYS],
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

This had better be sent to General Gregg, with directions to inquire into it at once, and if there is anything in it to endeavor by an active reconnaissance to ascertain something definite. Urge promptness in investigation and reporting.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 22, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

On what road were the cavalry vedettes? On what road were the enemy moving, and in what direction? Were they cavalry or infantry?

A. A HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864. (Received 1.20 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

My staff officer has just returned, and reports the whole story of enemy moving along our rear a complete fabrication. It appears the vedette was fired upon about midnight, retired to the infantry picket, and reported to the lieutenant in charge the movement of the enemy. The report then came regularly up. The fault is that the intermediate commander did not investigate the matter. Two or three of cavalry posts were fired upon during the night, evidently by horse-thieves.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

This had better be sent to General Gregg.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 22, 1864.

Major-General PARKE:

GENERAL: I desire to know, in case of a movement and the leaving the present lines to be held by the redoubts and pickets, what number of men and guns it would require to hold the redoubts and inclosed batteries now held by you around to the Clements house work? The picket-line in front should be taken from the garrisons of the works as far as practicable. Having ascertained the number of men and guns to hold these works and picket in front, I wish to know what force is left in men and guns for operations elsewhere?

Respectfully,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that the slashing along our line be extended as far to the front as practicable. You will please give the necessary directions to have this done on your front. The Fifth Corps will slash theirs first, and directions will be given General Willcox to extend his.

Very respectfully,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 22, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

General Parke reports that the cavalry vedettes report quite heavy bodies of the enemy moving in their front between midnight and 2 a. m. The commanding general directs that you inquire into this at once, and if you find that it is well founded that you make a strong reconnaissance and endeavor to ascertain what the movement means. The commanding general enjoins prompt inquiry, execution, and report.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff:

The signal officer at James River tower reports a mortar in position where the light battery was stationed when firing at the tower, north 60 degrees west from signal tower, shelling Dutch Gap.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 22, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that, by reason of being compelled to attend to the fire on the gun-boats, was unable to visit the Gap until late this p. m. Am informed by my sergeant, however, that the rebels have shelled but little and with slight effect. Mr. Lewis sent a few shots at them from the 4.5-inch gun, making very good practice. Presume Mr. Woodruff gave you all particulars of the firing at the rebel boats this forenoon. The wooden one was struck at least fifteen times before she could get out of the way; was evidently somewhat damaged. Iron-clads and all were much frightened and steamed up the river out of sight. Ashby's battery made miserable practice. Regretted that you could not be there.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 145. } *Before Richmond, Va., October 22, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

3. In pursuance of instructions from headquarters Tenth Army Corps the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, Capt. T. F. Edmands commanding, is hereby assigned to garrison duty in the redoubt near Four-Mile Church. In case of action the commanding officer will assume command of the artillery, which may be in the fort, in addition to the infantry, and will be held responsible for the proper defense of the work.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

COLONEL: I have the honor to request that the Eleventh Connecticut Volunteers be ordered to report to Colonel Potter, commanding Provisional Brigade, and the Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers be ordered to report to me for assignment to duty in the First Division of this corps. The Eleventh Connecticut now has about 300 men for duty, and is now on duty as headquarters guard. I wish to make this exchange in order that I may have Col. Guy V. Henry, Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers, as a brigade commander in the First Division. I would request that all the detailed and detached men of the Fortieth Massachusetts now serving in the department be relieved and sent to me with their regiment. When the exchange is made I will order a regiment of only about ninety men placed on duty as headquarters guard.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 23, 1864.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Stations report unusual quietness in the enemy's lines to-day and very little travel on the Boydton plank road.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 23, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Holman's and Jordan's stations report all quiet. From the Avery house a quantity of lumber was seen to be unloaded in rear of Crater and into it, via a covered way.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
October 23, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Armies of the United States:

In obedience to the orders of the lieutenant-general commanding, who directed me to report to him whenever any orders withdrew the troops from the lines in front of this point so that there were less than about 5,500 men, I have to state that I have just received an order from General S. Williams which withdraws (to join General Warren) the battalion of One hundred and eighty-seventh New York Regiment of about 460 men, and that I on yesterday reported to headquarters Army of the Potomac (while stating this order of General Grant's) the fact that there was then left me, as the report showed, about 2,592 infantry on these lines. This will, of course, leave upon the lines 2,132 infantry, which consists of regiments and detachments as follows: One regiment, the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania, from General Butler's command; one battalion of five companies of the Sixty-first Massachusetts; the battalion of five companies of the Eighteenth New Hampshire; one battalion of three companies of the Eighth Delaware, and one independent New York company, which gives the 2,132 men. Of these, two companies of the New Hampshire battalion are only now obtaining their arms. In addition to these, there are the Second Maine Battery of six pieces and about 275 armed men at my headquarters camp of the engineers. The remainder of the engineer recruits are not armed as yet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 23, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in my lines since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 23, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I am requested by the major-general commanding to acknowledge the receipt of your confidential communication of yesterday's date, and to say that at present he contemplates holding the line of the Second Corps in the manner proposed in your estimate, and with the Third Division of your corps, which exceeds somewhat the number required by your estimate. He desires to be informed of the shortest time in which the other divisions of your corps can be relieved by the Third Division and the dispositions made for moving those divisions. The acting chief engineer will be directed to put up a battery at the Friend house and erect such other works in rear of the line as may be practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 23, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In reply to your confidential note of this date, I have the honor to say that the change indicated in it can be made in a single night, but it would be preferable to allow two nights to perfect the changes, especially the proper relief of the picket-lines. One division I propose to mass in the field near the Southall house, the other in rear of my headquarters. I do not know the reason the Third Division was selected to hold the line. It is proper to say that this division would perhaps be more effective in the field than the First. The latter has a very large proportion of conscripts and new men and fewer experienced subaltern officers. General Miles himself, however, would be a very valuable officer, and I should regret to move without him. It seems to me, however, that under all the circumstances it might be preferable to let General Miles hold the line with his division.

Very respectfully,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 23, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I am instructed to say that the commanding general has no objection to the line being held by your First Division. The Third Division was named because its numbers agreed nearly with those required to hold the line. In the event of your assigning the First Division to that duty, one of its brigades should be temporarily detached to the troops that march, or the surplus over and above the number required by your estimate to hold the line should be so detached. The contemplated movement will take place Wednesday night and Thursday morning, and the commanding general authorizes you to make the

necessary changes and arrangement of your troops whenever you consider it best. Your two divisions will be required to move on Wednesday night. The troops that hold the lines will be left with six days' full rations. Instructions for the movement, &c., will be sent.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 23, 1864—8 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Some colored people came in to-night. They lived on the Jerusalem plank road, on the Nottoway. They say they heard that some infantry which was at Stony Creek went away last Sunday toward North Carolina. This was to meet some raiding party of ours. The negroes are being sent south to a considerable extent. Very few pickets are now on plank road, the most of their cavalry force having been withdrawn Monday and Tuesday last.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 23, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the usual amount of artillery firing on the line yesterday. At dark Rogers' (Sixth Maine) battery was relieved by the additional section of Battery B, First New Jersey, lately received and moved to Fort McGilvery, relieving Lieutenant Roder, who went into park near the Friend house. The additional section of the Tenth Massachusetts Battery at the same time relieved Edgell's (First New Hampshire) battery, which is now in park near the Beatty house.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 177. } HDQRS. ARTY. BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS,
October 23, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. The commanding officer Eleventh New York Battery will at once move the section of his battery which is in Battery No. 6 into Fort McGilvery.

III. The commanding officer of the Sixth Maine Battery will at once move one section of his battery from Fort McGilvery into Battery No. 9, relieving Lieutenant Dauchy, Twelfth New York Battery.

IV. Lieutenant Dauchy, Twelfth New York Battery, will on being relieved to-night in Battery No. 9 by a section of the Sixth Maine Battery move his battery into Fort Haskell and relieve Beck's batteries (C and I), Fifth U. S. Artillery.

V. Lieutenant Beck, commanding Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, on being relieved by Dauchy's (Twelfth New York) battery to-night will at once move his pieces out and put them into park with his present park of caissons.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that there are wells and shore galleries under Battery No. 10 which afford means of detecting any attempt of the emeny to mine there. I have questioned these deserters, and it appears probable that only the usual listening galleries have been constructed by the enemy, though they may intend one of them to mine Fort Stedman. There can be no immediate danger. If you will send an officer who will not communicate any fear to the garrison by conversation into the wells in No. 10 he will be able to hear the enemy if they are at work for a distance of nearly twenty yards with great distinctness. As these men say the enemy do not work at night, there is no use of examining the well till to-morrow. When the engineer officer comes I will go down with him. I don't think there is any reason whatever for alarm. The same reports have been made at intervals since July last. There is at least no immediate danger.

Respectfully,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
October 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during yesterday and last night. No change perceptible in enemy's position.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 23, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Nothing unusual has transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours. Two deserters from the Fourteenth Tennessee came in last night.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
October 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In reply to your communication of the 22d I have the honor to report the following armament for the redoubts along our line extending from Fisher, on the right, to the Clements house, on the left: Fisher, four guns; Welch, eight guns (Pegram house); Gregg, four guns; Sampson, four guns; Cummings, four guns (Clements house). The present picket-line from our right to the Hawks house road has a strength of about 15 officers and 730 men. I would, therefore, recommend an infantry force of about 1,500 men as the minimum to garrison these five redoubts and picket their front. This would furnish an average garrison of 300 men.

The line of infantry parapet from our right to include the Clements house work has a development of about 2,300 yards. Having detailed this force from the white troops and the above-mentioned number of guns, we will have available two six-gun batteries, 6,600 white troops (exclusive of the two new regiments), and 4,850 colored troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER:

GENERAL: The commanding general requests me to inform you that two new regiments will be ordered to report to you upon their arrival. The Thirty-ninth New Jersey, with an aggregate of 1,000 men, and the One hundred and eighty-sixth New York, with about 875 men.

Very respectfully, yours,

P. M. LYDIG,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 9TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 138. } *Near Poplar Spring Church, Va., Oct. 23, 1864.*

The Thirty-ninth New Jersey and the One hundred and eighty-sixth New York Regiments Volunteer Infantry, having been attached to this command, are hereby temporarily assigned as follows: Thirty-ninth New Jersey Volunteers to First Brigade, and will report to Bvt. Brig. Gen. John I. Curtin, commanding; One hundred and eighty-sixth New York Volunteers to Second Brigade, and will report to Brig. Gen. S. G. Griffin, commanding.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAMUEL WRIGHT,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
No. 307. } ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., October 23, 1864.

1. The Eleventh Connecticut Volunteers will proceed to Bermuda Hundred and report to Brigadier-General Graham, relieving the Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers. The Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers will proceed to the front and rejoin the Eighteenth Army Corps. Brigadier-General Graham will cause all the detailed officers and men of the Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers within his command to be relieved and move with their regiment.

2. Leaves of absence to go out of the department are hereby granted to the following-named officers: * * * Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz, U. S. Volunteers, for twenty days. General Kautz will turn over his command to Colonel West, Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 23, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

Taking into consideration the probability of having to drop your establishment down the river so as to bring it within General Benham's line of defense, how many rounds of ammunition per gun and mortar can you conveniently and safely place in the forts to provide against their being cut off from supplies?

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 23, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

My train is all afloat, and it would be better to move my depot across the Appomattox, and use the present landing when wanted for Petersburg and that on other bank for the Bermuda Hundred lines. I think I shall do this anyhow, as it is a warmer site for a camp. The only bridge is here, which is very convenient for such a change. Please say if this would do instead of City Point. I can keep about 100 rounds per gun, and more, if necessary, per mortar, at all the batteries without trouble.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 23, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

The only Appomattox bridge is at this landing. This bank is easily defended by a very little work. My ordnance men would furnish all

needful garrison. Cannot I be supplied with a working party? I will attend to the construction of the line. I would much prefer this to moving.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 23, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I was at the Gap during the forenoon and until about 2 p. m. There was no firing by the rebels previous to 11 a. m., when they opened slowly with their Coehorns, bursting the shells over the river near the south end of the parapet where the 100-pounder was formerly in position. Did not deem it policy to return their random firing very rapidly with the 8-inch mortars. After returning to Fort Brady ordered the 4.5-inch gun to be fired at them from the ditch. They became perfectly quiet in about one hour and a half. Received an order to-night from Major-General Butler to forward a full report of the action with the gun-boats.* Will send you a copy if desired. Accept many thanks for the drawing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE.
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS U. S. FORCES,
Deep Bottom, Va., October 23, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the James:

COLONEL: I beg to report the arrival at this post of the One hundred and sixteenth Regiment U. S. Colored Infantry, with an aggregate strength of 704. I have made special report to Captain Sealy, assistant adjutant-general, of the small number of officers accompanying this command.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARNOLD A. RAND,
Colonel Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, Commanding Post.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Deserters who came in last night reported the enemy mining in front of Fort Stedman. An engineer officer and working party were immediately sent to take the requisite measures for ascertaining if such was the case. I think the report has arisen like many of its predecessors in some precautionary measures of the enemy defensive against our mining. With this exception I have nothing further to report.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Part I, p. 215.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 24, 1864—3 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

As soon as practicable after Thursday next send one of your reduced regular regiments to New York City to report to General Dix for duty.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I find the Tenth Infantry has present 5 officers and 176 enlisted men. This number is so small the regiment can be sent at once to New York if you desire it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 24, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Order the Tenth U. S. Infantry to proceed to New York City without delay, and report to Maj. Gen. John A. Dix for orders.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies in the Field:

GENERAL: With extreme reluctance I find myself compelled to call your attention to the following extract from an article published in the New York Independent of October 13, 1864:

He is the general (myself) * * * who, in the campaign from the Rapidan to the James under Grant, annulled the genius of his chief by his own executive incapacity; who lost the prize of Petersburg by martinet delay on the south bank of the James; who lost it again in succeeding contests by tactical incompetence; who lost it again by inconceivable follies of military administration when the mine was exploded; who insulted his corps commanders and his army by attributing to them that inability to co-operate with each other which was traceable solely to the unmilitary slovenliness of their general; who, in a word, holds his place by virtue of no personal qualifications, but in deference to a presumed, fictitious, perverted political necessity, and who hangs upon the neck of General Grant like an old man of the sea, whom he longs to be rid of, and whom he retains solely in deference to the weak complaisance of his constitutional commander-in-chief. Be other voices muzzled, if they must be, ours, at least, shall speak out on this question of enforced military subservience to political, to partisan, to personal requisitions. We, at least, if no others, may declare in the name of a wronged, baffled, indignant army, that its nominal commander is unfit, or unwilling, or incapable to lead it to victory, and we ask that General Grant's hands may be strengthened by the removal of Meade.

It is not necessary to inquire or surmise what source inspired the foregoing grave bill of indictment, nor would I trouble you in regard to this matter, if this was the first or only instance in which I had cause to complain of misrepresentation, but you are aware that ever since I have had the honor to serve under your immediate direction I have been held responsible for all the acts which a certain portion of the public press have been pleased to designate as failures or blunders. Indeed, the extract now quoted is an admirable summary of the various charges which from time to time have been brought against me. Now these charges are either true or false; in either case the public and those who are near and dear to me are entitled to know the facts. In the absence of any published official reports or any official records, to which I can refer, I feel justified in appealing to you and asking as a matter of justice and a simple concession to truth that you will furnish me with such evidence as will place it in my power to correct the extraordinary misapprehension into which the editor of the New York Independent appears to have been led through some malign influence, the origin of which I am utterly unable to account for.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 24, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Your note, by the hands of Lieutenant Dunn, is received. I have felt as much pained as you at the constant stabs made at you by a portion of the public press. I know nothing better to give you to use in answer to these charges than copies of every dispatch sent to Washington by me, in which your name is used. These will show at least that I have never expressed dissatisfaction at any portion of your services.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., October 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Make your preparations to march out at an early hour on the 27th to gain possession of the South Side Railroad, and to hold it and fortify back to your present left. In commencing your advance, move in three columns exactly as proposed by yourself in our conversation of last evening, and with the same force you proposed to take. Parke, who starts out nearest to the enemy, should be instructed that if he finds the enemy intrenched and their works well manned, he is not to attack but confront him, and be prepared to advance promptly when he finds that by the movement of the other two columns to the right and rear of them they begin to give way. Take three days' rations in haversacks, sixty rounds of ammunition on the person of each soldier, and go as near as possible without wagons or ambulances. It might be well to have, say, twenty rounds of ammunition per man,

with a corresponding amount of artillery ammunition in wagons ready to be taken to the army if required. All the depots on the line of the road should be cleared of stores, and all wagons, ambulances, and artillery horses not moving with the army sent back to City Point during the night of the 26th. I will go out to the left at an early hour of the morning your move commences.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *October 24, 1864.*

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Your telegram of the 24th instant, relative to the convalescents, &c., of the Sixth and Nineteenth Corps men in our charge, having been referred to the lieutenant-general commanding, has been returned with the following indorsement:

Respectfully returned to General Patrick, provost-marshal-general, with the information that after a careful examination of this matter it is believed to be impracticable to arm the troops within referred to. There are no officers with the men to be responsible for the arms, and there are no arms in the ordnance office except new and first-class arms. You will communicate these facts to General Meade, and unless he can suggest some practicable plan for carrying his suggestion into effect by you, you will forward these men to Sheridan's army as fast as possible.

Please advise with General Meade on this matter at once and inform me at the earliest moment practicable of his decision, that I may carry out the instructions of the lieutenant-general commanding with as little delay as possible.

M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General PATRICK:

The commanding general directs that you order the One hundred and eighty-seventh New York Volunteers to report, with as little delay as practicable, to General Warren, commanding Fifth Army Corps.

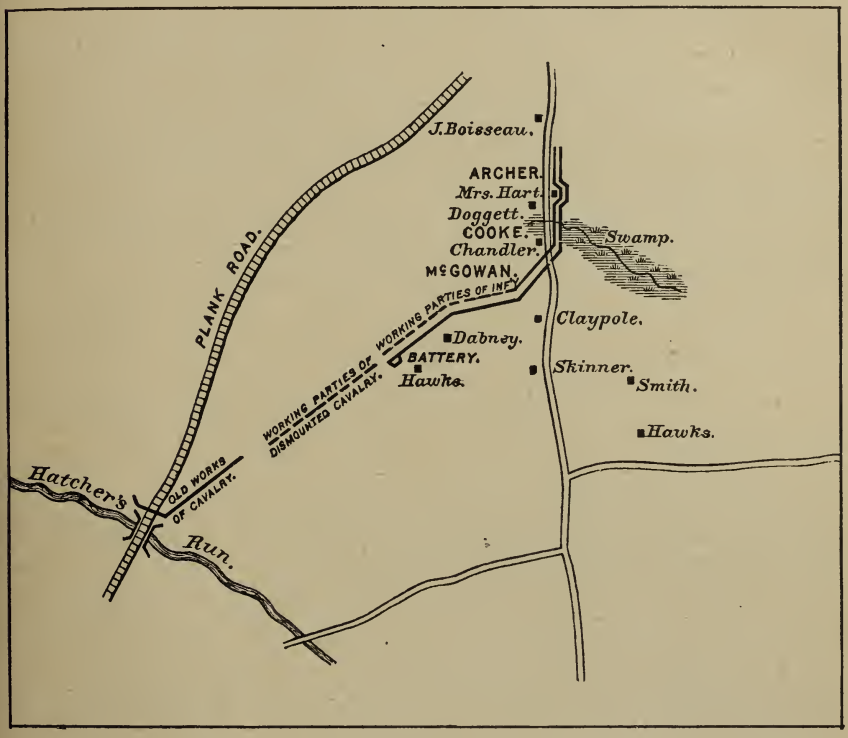
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
October 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Fourteenth Tennessee, Archer's brigade, and one from Twenty-seventh North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, of Heth's division, came into the lines of the Ninth Army Corps yesterday. From them we are enabled to locate the enemy's right approxi-

mately correct and to corroborate previous information on the same point. With a correct map the line could be exactly defined. The following sketch is nearer correct than any printed maps we have:



The houses of Dabney and Hawks have been described and located by Skinner, who knows them well. The deserters, having been out with the working parties (one of them as late as last Saturday), recognized the houses from Skinner's description, and the direction of the works is determined by the fact that they run to the rear of and close to these houses. Working parties are sent out from the different brigades on the right and are erecting a line of works for a mile or more beyond the line of McGowan's brigade. One of informants thinks it is not more than a mile beyond McGowan's to where the cavalry are working, but fixes it definitely at 200 yards beyond the Hawks house. A battery is being erected near and to the right of the Hawks house, which has been torn down to clear the range. (See sketch.)

Three deserters from the Ninth Florida, Finegan's brigade, came into the lines of the Third Division, Second Army Corps, this a. m. No changes discovered in Mahone's division. Also, three deserters from the Forty-ninth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division, came into Second Army Corps this a. m. They locate their brigade on the enemy's extreme left between Norfolk railroad and the Appomattox. No changes discovered in Johnson's division. No general information of importance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 24, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain PAINE:

Owing to the fog and smoke we have so far been unable to see the enemy's camps or roads.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 24, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

At 3 p. m. two regiments of the enemy's infantry, respectively, about 60 and 200 men, appeared on inspection in works near Jones'; otherwise no movements have become visible since last report.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Stations report no movements of importance to-day. Small squads drilling at work near the R. Jones house and at the fort north 30 degrees east from the Church road station.

CHARLES L. DAVIS,
Captain.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 287. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. Bvt. Brig. Gen. John 1. Curtin, U. S. Volunteers, having been assigned to duty with this army by paragraph 2, Special Orders, No. 109, from headquarters Armies of the United States, dated October 22, 1864, will report to Maj. Gen. John G. Parke, commanding Ninth Army Corps, for further instructions.

5. The One hundred and eighty-seventh Regiment New York Volunteers, having reported for duty with this army, is assigned to the Fifth Army Corps, which it will proceed to join with the least delay practicable.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864. (Received 4 p. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, &c.:

In answer to your communication of the 22d instant, received last night, I have to say that the commanding general desires that you arm the engineer recruits at once, and that you occupy the redoubts and

inclosed batteries with the troops under your command, holding the surplus left after assigning the garrisons at suitable points between those works. The troops thus distributed will, of course, still be used as working parties. The commanding general directs that you send at once a strong working party to report to Col. H. L. Abbot, at Broadway Landing, for the purpose of erecting some works to hold that point. He further directs that you prepare the approaches on both banks of the Appomattox at the site selected by you for a pontoon bridge, although at present the necessity of transferring the bridge to that point is not contemplated. In the event of a threatened attack on your intrenchments you would have for their defense, besides the troops now under your command, those of the provost-marshal-general at City Point and the enlisted men of the trains that would be collected within your lines.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *October 24, 1864.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

On your order of 12.35, received at 1.50, I sent an aide to take 150 men from the lines to Colonel Abbot. The aide just returned, after waiting till near sunset, reporting no officer there to direct them, and they will return to-night. Colonel Abbot came here, however, and I have arranged to send him, as he wishes, about 150 men for three or four days early to-morrow, as also to examine my lines with him for the distribution of the artillery he is to send me. Your second dispatch, received at 4 p. m., will be complied with as nearly as possible. I will arrange to-night or in the early morning to arm the recruits here and distribute them as directed. I have now here, including the regiment from General Butler's, about 2,100 infantry; of these, three companies are not yet armed. I suppose it is intended that the corduroy road on the north side of the Appomattox, from the Nelson house, shall be constructed only after the intrenched lines are completed. If otherwise, will you please inform me?

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in my lines since last report. An engineer officer is running a gallery down in Fort Stedman.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel MORGAN:

Can you furnish me details to throw up two new batteries, one near the Avery house and the other between the Dunn house and Friend's.

I have directed engineer troops to be sent there at once to construct them. Please answer. If you can, I will tell the officers in charge to make the necessary requisition for men and teams. It will not take long to complete them.

N. MICHLER,
Major of Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The signal officer at the Gibbon house reports an unusual quantity of dust rising since 3 p. m. at a point where the military road crosses the Weldon railroad, south-southwest from the city, apparently moving to the enemy's right, although it is impossible to be certain of the direction, as it is very smoky.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: In the scheme sent to you a few days since there was an error in stating the strength of the First Division, arising from taking the aggregate present instead of the present for duty. The figures should have been 6,809. The other divisions were correctly stated. Will the regiment doing guard duty at Cedar Level be relieved? I beg leave to suggest that the citizens who come in after rations ought either be rationed at the picket-line or furnished with a sufficient number of rations to keep them outside of the lines for the present.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general wishes me to say to you that the regiment at Cedar Level should remain at that depot until it is broken up, and then go within the intrenchments covering City Point, and report to Brigadier-General Benham temporarily. It is understood the regiment is small. The troops that take part in the proposed operations will take three days' full rations in haversack, and three days' bread and small rations in knapsack. Sixty rounds of ammunition will be taken on the person; forty rounds infantry ammunition in wagons. The artillery will take 250 rounds, using the caissons of the guns in the inclosed works instead of wagons. One-half the ambulances will go with the troops, and one medicine and one hospital wagon for each brigade. The intrenching tools will be taken. No baggage or

headquarters wagons will be allowed, but instead such pack animals as may be absolutely necessary for the rations and tents of officers. All other trains and wagons than those just specified will be sent within the intrenchments covering City Point under the direction of the chief quartermaster of the army. Clerks, orderlies, and every other man on detached, special, extra, or daily duty will be armed and sent to the ranks for this operation unless his services are absolutely necessary out of his regiment on the duties named. Arms and accouterments will be obtained for this purpose. The horses and such caissons belonging to the artillery in the inclosed works as are not taken with the troops will be moved within the lines of intrenchments covering City Point. An officer from each corps will be detailed to take charge of them, the whole to be parked with the train of the Artillery Reserve under the orders of the officer in charge of that train. The chief of artillery will designate the number of forges and battery wagons to accompany the batteries with the troops. The surplus will join the Artillery Reserve train under the charge of the officer detailed to the horses, &c., of the guns in the redoubts, &c. This communication is merely intended to be advisory.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The regiment at Cedar Level will be relieved. All the depots will be broken up. We have no continuous pickets beyond the vicinity of Davenport Church.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864. (Received 4.45 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

It is expected that forage for the horses of officers will be carried on pack animals as well as their baggage. Some modification of the amount of artillery ammunition carried will be made. Perhaps a park may be made of the reserve caissons near the left of our present line. Some modification may also be made so as to leave wagons there to bring up rations.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NOTE.—Same as above to Generals Parke and Warren.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Under instructions from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the following disposition of troops is ordered:

I. Brigadier-General Miles, commanding First Division, will take up the line and picket-line from Battery 24, on the left, to the redoubt at

Spring Hill, relieving the troops of the Second and Third Divisions. General Miles will garrison the inclosed works in accordance with the memorandum furnished him, subject to such orders as may hereafter be given. The surplus of troops of his division will be held in reserve. On being relieved the Third Division will be massed in the cleared ground near the Southall house. The Second Division will be massed near Fort Bross, on the Norfolk railroad.

II. The chief of artillery will arrange the field guns on the line in accordance with the memorandum furnished him. Such batteries of the corps as are already in reserve, or may be withdrawn from the line under this order, will be parked beyond the view of the enemy, and where they can be moved without being observed.

III. The commanders of the Second and Third Divisions will send staff officers to report to General Miles at dark for assisting in the relief of the picket-lines.

IV. The changes indicated will be commenced at dark, and all troops moving from the line must be massed beyond the view of the enemy by daylight on the morning of the 25th.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS,
October 24, 1864.

Major HAZARD,
Chief of Artillery, Second Corps:

It is understood that Major Michler expects to throw up a work near the Avery house to take the place of No. 17. If this is done Pratt's guns will probably be placed in it, or else the battery can be left where it is if General Hancock will inclose it and furnish a garrison. If neither of these things is done, the guns should go into Fort Morton. I will see if Colonel Abbot can spare you two 8-inch howitzers for Fort Sedgwick.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that last night a section of the Eleventh New York Battery was moved out of Battery No. 6 and into Fort McGilvery. A section of the Sixth Maine Battery moved from Fort McGilvery into Battery No. 9, relieving the Twelfth New York Battery, which moved into Fort Haskell, relieving four guns of Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, which went into park near the Beatty house. One section of Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, was relieved in Fort Davis by a section of the Third New York, Captain Harn, and went into park with the rest of the battery. Nothing else of importance occurred during the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM WILSON, *Commanding First Brigade:*

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you cause all the old works in front of Fort Stedman that obstruct the fire of the guns in the fort to be destroyed to-night by the garrison of the fort. The pioneer officer at these headquarters will furnish the necessary tools.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST BRIGADE:

The brevet major-general commanding directs that you have all your available men report at once in front of headquarters Second Brigade for the purpose of cutting more of the timber in front of Fort Alexander Hays. The men will take all the axes they can get and the balance will be supplied from these headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front yesterday or last night. All was quiet. The battalion of the One hundred and eighty-eighth Regiment New York Volunteers, Major Davison commanding, arrived in the night and has been assigned to Griffin's division.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

I am instructed to inform you that the contemplated movement will take place Wednesday night and Thursday morning. Orders to that effect will be duly issued. In the meantime the commanding general directs that the troops which are to hold the redoubts and inclosed batteries on the line of the Fifth Corps from Battery 24 to Fort Conahey and picket the front be assigned and posted. The number required for this duty by your estimate is 2,200; the number of guns thirty-two. This arrangement being made, the rest of your troops and artillery will be massed at convenient points for movement, out of view of the enemy. I have to state for your information that the troops left in the lines should have with them six days' full rations, and the ammunition for artillery and infantry previously prescribed. The troops that march will take three days' full rations in haversacks, and three

days' bread and small rations in knapsacks. Three days' beef will be driven. Sixty rounds of ammunition on the person; forty rounds infantry ammunition in the wagons. The artillery will take 250 rounds, using the caissons of the guns in the inclosed works instead of wagons. One-half the ambulances will go with the troops, and one medicine and one hospital wagon for each brigade. The intrenching tools will be taken. No baggage or headquarters wagons will be allowed, but instead such pack-mules as may be absolutely necessary for the rations and tents of officers. All other trains and wagons than those just specified will be sent within the intrenchments covering City Point, under the direction of the chief quartermaster of the army. Clerks, orderlies, and every other man on detached, special, extra, or daily duty, will be armed and sent to the ranks for the operation, unless his services are absolutely necessary out of his regiment on the duties named. Arms and accouterments will be obtained for the purpose. The horses and such caissons belonging to the artillery in the inclosed works as are not to be taken with the troops will be moved within the line of intrenchments covering City Point. An officer from each corps will be detailed to take charge of them. The whole to be parked with the train of the Artillery Reserve under the orders of the officer in charge of that train.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

The chief of artillery will designate the number of forges and battery wagons to accompany the batteries with the troops. The surplus will join the Artillery Reserve train under the charge of the officer detailed to the horses, &c., of the guns in the redoubts, &c.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

P. S.—Forage for officers' horses will be carried on pack animals. The spring-wagons of headquarters are not to accompany the troops. Some modification of the amount of artillery ammunition carried will be made, and some modification may also be made so as to leave wagons parked there to bring up rations.

A. A. H.,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

It would be desirable to have General Griffin here when the movement is made, and he can be telegraphed in time yet, I think. If you would not like to inform him there is a movement on foot, the dispatch might be sent as coming from me as follows:

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN:
(Care of Colonel Hardie.)

GENERAL: Affairs in your division require your immediate return for a few days.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

If you approve this dispatch being sent, will you please have it done.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE:

In what division is the battalion of the Twenty-second Massachusetts Volunteers? Has it been consolidated? If so, with what? Does it retain its designation as Twenty-second Massachusetts Volunteers?

GEO. G. HASTINGS,
Major and Acting Judge-Advocate.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Major HASTINGS,
Acting Judge-Advocate, Army of the Potomac:

The Twenty-second Massachusetts Battalion is in First Division. Has not been consolidated. Retains its designation.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864—7 p. m. (Received 8 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN:
(Care of Colonel Hardie.)

Affairs in your division require your immediate return for a few days.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 265. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

I. The battalion of the One hundred and eighty-eighth Regiment New York Volunteers, having reported in compliance with Special Orders, No. [285], headquarters Army of the Potomac, is assigned to the First Division, and will report to the general commanding for assignment to a brigade.

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By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 151. } HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Bvt. Brig. Gen. E. M. Gregory, having reported in compliance with paragraph 6, Special Orders, No. 264, headquarters Fifth Army Corps, is assigned to the command of the Second Brigade.

3. The battalion of the One hundred and eighty-eighth Regiment New York Volunteers, having reported in accordance with Special Orders, No. 265, headquarters Fifth Corps, is assigned to the Second Brigade, General Gregory commanding.

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By command of Brigadier-General Bartlett:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Major-General PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

I am directed to inform you that the contemplated movement will take place Wednesday night and Thursday morning. Orders to that effect will be duly issued. In the meantime the commanding general directs that the troops which are to hold the redoubts and inclosed batteries on the line of the Ninth Corps from Fort Fisher to Fort Cummings (Clement house), and picket the front in that space, be assigned and posted. The number required for this duty by your estimate is 1,500 men and 24 guns. This arrangement being made, the rest of your troops and artillery will be massed at convenient points for movement, out of view of the enemy. I have to state for your information that the troops left in the lines should have with them six days' full rations, and the ammunition for artillery and infantry previously prescribed. The troops that march will take three days' full rations in haversacks, and three days' bread and small rations in knapsacks. Three days' beef will be driven. Sixty rounds of ammunition will be taken on the person; forty rounds infantry ammunition in wagons. The artillery will take 250 rounds, using the caissons of the guns in the inclosed works instead of wagons. One-half the ambulances will go with the troops, and one medicine and one hospital wagon for each brigade. The intrenching tools will be taken. No baggage or headquarters wagons will be allowed, but instead such pack animals as may be absolutely necessary for the rations and tents of officers. All other trains and wagons than those just specified will be sent within the intrenchments covering City Point, under the direction of the chief quartermaster of the army. Clerks, orderlies, and every other man on detached, special, extra, or daily duty, will be armed and sent to the ranks for this operation, unless his services are absolutely necessary out of his regiment on the duties named. Arms and accouterments will be obtained for this purpose. The horses and such caissons belonging to the artillery in the inclosed works as are not taken with the troops will be moved within the line of intrenchment covering City Point. An officer from each corps will be detailed to take charge of them. The whole to be parked with the train of the Artillery Reserve under the orders of the officer in charge of that train. The chief of artillery will designate the number of forges and battery-wagons to accompany the batteries with the troops. The surplus will join the artillery reserve train under the charge of the officer detailed to the horses, &c., of the guns in the redoubts, &c.

With the exception of the first paragraph, this communication is intended to be merely advisory.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

NOTE.—The same dispatch as the above was sent to General Warren, except that his front was designated as from Battery No. 24 to Fort Conahey.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, Va., October 24, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER THIRD NEW JERSEY CAVALRY:

COLONEL: I wish to make some mention of an act of gallantry that was performed by Sergeant Doyle, of your regiment, during the action

of the 3d of June, 1864, near Bethesda Church. My command was on the extreme right of the army and had by an attack of the enemy become separated from General Wilson's division of cavalry, which was guarding that flank. I wished to communicate with General Wilson, and Sergeant Doyle volunteered to carry the dispatch; this he did and returned in safety, bringing back General Wilson's answer, having passed twice through the enemy's lines and rendering an important military service. This act of Sergeant Doyle's proved him to be an energetic and courageous soldier, and worthy of the respect of his comrades and the approbation of his officers.

I remain, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Division commanders will be prepared to carry out the following instructions in the event of a movement being ordered:

1. Troops remaining to garrison line of works and picket the front from Fort Fisher to Fort Cummings will be supplied with six days' rations and amount of ammunition previously prescribed (200 rounds per man).

2. The troops, except those selected to remain for purpose above indicated, will be massed at convenient points for movement out of view of the enemy.

3. The troops that march will have three days' full rations in haversack and three days' bread and small rations in knapsack, sixty rounds of ammunition on the person, and forty rounds per man in wagons. Three days' beef will be driven.

4. Half the ambulances, one hospital and one medicine wagon to a brigade, and the intrenching tools will be taken.

5. No baggage or headquarters wagons will be taken, but instead such pack animals as may be absolutely necessary to carry the rations, tents and baggage of officers, and forage for officers' horses.

6. All other trains and wagons than those above specified will be sent within the intrenchments covering City Point.

7. Clerks, orderlies, and every other man on detached, special, extra, or daily duty will be armed and sent to the ranks, unless his services are absolutely necessary out of his regiment on the duties named.

By command of Major-General Parke:

P. M. LYDIG,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Col. J. C. TIDBALL,
Chief of Artillery:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that in the event of a movement being ordered you be prepared to carry out the following instructions:

1. You will designate the batteries to remain to hold the redoubts and inclosed works from Fort Fisher to Fort Cummings, with amount of ammunition previously prescribed and six days' rations (twenty-four guns to hold the works).

2. The remaining artillery will be massed at a convenient point for movement out of view of the enemy.

3. The artillery that moves will take 250 rounds of ammunition, using the caissons of the guns in the inclosed works instead of wagons, the men to be supplied with three days' full rations in haversack and three days' bread and small rations in knapsack. Three days' beef to be driven.

4. Horses and caissons belonging to artillery in inclosed works, not taken with the troops, will be moved inside the intrenchments covering City Point, to be parked with train of Artillery Reserve.

5. You will designate the number of forges, battery wagons, &c., to accompany batteries with the troops; surplus to join Artillery Reserve train under charge of the officer to be detailed to take charge of horses, &c., of the guns in the redoubts.

The following modifications of the above may be made:

(1) Perhaps a park may be made of the reserve caissons near the left of our present line, and the horses of your batteries in the inclosed works may also be kept near the left so as to bring up the batteries if needed.

(2) A change in the amount of ammunition to be carried may be made, and some wagons, perhaps, may be parked near the left to bring up rations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. LYDIG,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 9TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 139. } *Near Poplar Spring Church, Va., October 24, 1864.*

Bvt. Brig. Gen. John I. Curtin, U. S. Volunteers, having reported for orders in compliance with paragraph 7, Special Orders, No. 211, current series, headquarters Ninth Army Corps, is hereby assigned to command of First Brigade, Second Division, Ninth Army Corps.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAMUEL WRIGHT,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

I am instructed to inform you that a movement will commence on Wednesday night in which all your cavalry will participate. It will be necessary for you to draw in all your pickets. Orders for the preparation and movement will be duly issued. The infantry will take three days' full rations in haversacks, and three days' bread and small rations in knapsacks, and three days' beef on the hoof. The cavalry will do the same—that is, three days' full and three days' bread and small rations on the person, and three days' beef on the hoof; as much ammunition as they can carry on the person and the full remaining supply in wagons. The full supply of artillery ammunition must accompany the artillery. One-half the ambulances will go with the troops and one medicine and one hospital wagon for each brigade. No baggage or headquarters wagons will be allowed, but instead such pack

mules as may be absolutely necessary for the rations and tents of officers. All other trains and wagons than those just specified will be sent within the intrenchments covering City Point under the direction of the chief quartermaster of the army. Clerks, orderlies, and every other man on detached, special, extra, or daily duty will be armed and sent to the ranks for this operation, unless his services are absolutely necessary out of his regiment on the duties named. Arms and accouterments will be obtained for this purpose. If one of the forges and one of the battery wagons can be dispensed with they will be sent to the train of the Artillery Reserve within the intrenchments covering City Point. Such forage wagons as are indispensably necessary may be taken This communication is merely intended to be advisory.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In the preparation for a movement it will scarcely be possible for the cavalry to carry on their persons three days' bread and small rations in addition to the three days' rations in the haversacks. Each trooper will carry twenty pounds of forage, which will last three days. There is no place that a cavalry soldier can carry extra rations, his haversack being full. I will manage to have four days' carried in the haversacks, and these rations will last five days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of the Potomac:

Instead of all the small-arm ammunition in wagons one-half only will probably be taken with you. Your reserve artillery ammunition may perhaps be parked on our present left, if a park should be formed there for the infantry corps. No spring-wagons will go with the troops. As much forage should be taken on the animals as practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 24, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding Army of the James:

On Thursday morning, the 27th instant, General Meade will move from our left, with the design of seizing and holding the South Side Railroad. To facilitate this movement, or rather to prevent re-enforcements going from the north side of James River to Petersburg. I wish you to demonstrate against the enemy in your front, substantially as we talked the matter over last evening and as you proposed. I do not want any attack made by you against intrenched and defended posi-

tions, but feel out to the right beyond the front, and, if you can, turn it. Have your men go with three days' rations in their haversacks, sixty rounds of ammunition on their persons, and as near without wagons and ambulances as it is possible to go. It probably will be well to move all transportation, not absolutely necessary with the army, to the south side of the James. This need not take place before your movement of Thursday, but should commence in the morning with your movement. Let it be distinctly understood by corps commanders that there is to be no attack made against defended, intrenched positions. They should also have their commands fully instructed as to the possibility of the enemy moving out from their right on the James to attack in flank or rear. This demonstration on the part of the enemy is not likely to occur, but should be guarded against, and should be taken advantage of if attempted. Your cavalry, I believe, is not now well commanded. If it was, and the opportunity occurred, I would favor sending that to the Central road, to destroy as much track as possible. and return to the James River, in rear of your army. As it is, I will leave this to your judgment, whether the trip can be made; you being present with your army can form a judgment after the first few hours of your movement as to the expediency of attempting this. I shall myself be with the forces on our extreme left. Such dispatches as you may want to send to me through the day or days we may be out will reach me by courier from the headquarters of the Ninth Army Corps.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 139.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, October 24, 1864.

The transaction of business at these headquarters is constantly impeded by the inexcusable delay of subordinate officers in furnishing information required of them. This is true both in regard to regular returns and reports, and those specially called for.

Both promptitude and accuracy are peremptorily required, and no excuse will be considered valid except that the troops are actually in action at the time. The fact that the men are engaged in fortifying or intrenching will not be accepted as an excuse for remissness of their officers, which must be chargeable simply to laziness and inattention.

Officers are once for all warned of the strict responsibility to which they will be held.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer at Cobb's Hill reports at 11.30 a. m. that since daylight three trains had passed toward Petersburg and one toward Richmond. On account of the smoke he was unable to tell the number, kind, or contents.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL, *Chief of Staff:*

COLONEL: The signal officer stationed on a tree in front of the Tenth Corps makes the following report of his observations to-day:

The enemy are busy removing timber felled in front of interior rifle-pits connecting with Fort Johnson and extending along to our left of it; also increasing the height of breast-works near Fort Johnson. A large battle-flag on the works to our left of Fort Johnson; also a garrison flag near a house beyond same fort. Three lines of abatis in front of the work on our left of Johnson. A large number of women in the rebel camps during the day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. N. ROGERS,
Lieutenant, Signal Officer.

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 24, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT, *Broadway Landing:*

General Meade has in view the removal of the bridge below General Benham's lines, but will send General B. to see about a tête-de-pont at your place. General M. wishes you to place ten siege pieces at General Benham's disposal for his lines. The kind of pieces you can arrange with him. It would be well for you to put at least 150 rounds per gun in each fort, so as to be secure against the contingency of the supply being interrupted, and to make your arrangements for withdrawing such mortars on the lines as will not be safe if the forts only should remain occupied. I think the 8-inch mortars near forts like those at Hare house, for example. will be perfectly safe.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 24, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Pratt's battery of four 4½-inch guns in No. 17 and the four 8-inch mortars in No. 20 are the only ones requiring movement. These should be attended to. Of course you will send me orders when you wish me to move them. I will attend to the supply of ammunition. How is it about rations? I supply my men and would like notice accordingly.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS,
October 24, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT, *Broadway Landing:*

The garrisons should have ten days' rations. I will give you notice in time to supply them and to withdraw your mortars in No. 20. If no new work is put up near the Avery house and No. 17 is not inclosed and furnished with a garrison, the guns must be withdrawn and sent to Morton. Major Hazard wants a section of them at Fort Davis.

Major H. also asks for two 8-inch howitzers for Fort Sedgwick, vice a field battery (less than I have recommended for that work), but which cannot be spared. Can you give him them with the necessary amount of ammunition? If you do, will you be able to furnish men to serve them?

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 24, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HUNT, *Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

If it be necessary to put a section of 4½-inch guns in Fort Davis I would suggest to put one of Pratt's there, and the other with two mortars for ditch service in Fort Sedgwick instead of the siege howitzers. It would be very hard to serve the latter there, because mantlets could hardly be used from their extreme shortness. By the above arrangement no extra men would be necessary. The plan of putting heavy guns in these batteries will entail great difficulty of supplying ammunition, but if necessary it can, of course, be done.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 24, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HUNT, *Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

I have seen General Benham. He has no heavy artillery soldiers. I have none not in use. Please, therefore, assign two good companies to my command to serve the ten guns. I would like some of the Fourth New York if they can be had.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 24, 1864.*

Lieutenant MICHIE,
Chief Engineer, Headquarters Army of the James:

You will greatly oblige me if you will request General Butler to allow me to move the mortars from Dutch Gap to Fort Brady, where they will be more efficient by far, and the light guns to this landing, where a new fort is to be put up. They do no service at the gap which a section of light artillery could not better perform.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

Inclosed please find a dispatch from Lieutenant Michie to me. It is referred for your action:

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
October 24, 1864—7.50 p. m.

Colonel PIPER:

Will you order the 8-inch mortars now at Dutch Gap to be removed to Fort Brady on Cox's Hill. They will do more execution there than where they are at present,

and it will not divide the detachment that serves both. The light guns at the Gap can be sent back to Colonel Abbot and their place supplied by the 4½-inch rifles now at Fort Brady, if necessary. I think, however, it is a useless waste of ammunition to fire anything at the rebel mortar batteries.

P. S. MICHIE,
Lieutenant, U. S. Engineers.

A. PIPER,
Colonel Tenth New York Artillery, Chief of Artillery.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 24, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that not a shot was fired by the enemy at the Gap to-day until after 11 a. m., when they opened suddenly and fired very rapidly for an hour and a half or more. Hoy (a splendid soldier) was killed about noon. Most of their shell struck in and around my right mortar battery. This afternoon they commenced in the same hurried manner, doing no damage. Returned their fire with the mortars and the 4.5-inch gun. Earnestly request to have the 4.5-inch guns exchanged for the 30-pounder Parrotts, if the latter should ever be removed from their present position; the ammunition is so much surer. Handed in my report* to General Butler, and he seemed very much pleased with the whole affair; forwarded it to General Grant himself.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, October 24, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. J. L. NICODEMUS, U. S. Army,
Washington, D. C.:

COLONEL: In reply to your request that I would express an opinion upon the value and efficiency of the signal corps, I have the honor to say that in the Department of the South, where I served for nearly two years and a half, the signal corps was of great value, especially in establishing communication between land and naval forces operating together. I think it must always be of value in hilly or mountainous regions or in open country. In thickly wooded country it is, of course, difficult to establish good communication. As far as I have become acquainted with the personnel of the corps the officers are very efficient and faithful in the performance of duty.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel KENSEL,
Chief of Staff:

I wish to heaven you would immediately let me know at once who is responsible for and who commands the artillery in my front and on my

*See Part I, p. 215.

left on this side of the river. The guns at Dutch Gap have never been reported to me nor have I had the least control of them. Still, to-night Michie sends an order to my chief of artillery to change their position. Again, three 30-pounders and my Parrott battery of four 20-pounders were placed in position in front of my line. The commanding officer of the three 30-pounders, who never reported to me and whom I don't know, presumes to command my 20-pounder Parrott battery. Now what I desire is this, that you should issue an order at once that I command and control all guns belonging to the Eighteenth Corps on my front and that Colonel Abbot controls all others—that is, his siege guns and mortars. I am perfectly willing that my other guns on the old front be commanded by General Graham. This is so far a wretchedly mixed up matter and ought to be settled at once.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES,
Deep Bottom, Va., October 24, 1864.

Capt. ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c., Hdqrs. Army of the James:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the arrival at this post of the One hundred and eighteenth Regiment U. S. Colored Infantry. A memorandum return received from them shows: Enlisted men present, 871; absent sick, 76; absent without leave, 63; total, 1,010. The lieutenant-colonel was left in Baltimore, it seems, and the major commanding is unable to give me any roster of the regiment. The only officers, however, who have reported and are present for duty are as follows: Major, three captains, four first lieutenants, four second lieutenants (one acting adjutant and one acting regimental quartermaster included in the four second lieutenants), one surgeon, one assistant surgeon. Unless officers can be speedily assigned to the regiments now here I would respectfully request that competent non-commissioned officers or men be detailed from white regiments to instruct squads in the school of the soldier.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARNOLD A. RAND,
Colonel Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, Commanding Post.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 25, 1864—4.30 p. m.*
(Received 6 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have no objection to permitting every French subject in the South, or in fact every foreigner, no matter what his nationality, to pass out North, or to their native country, via City Point. Please so inform the Secretary of State.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
October 25, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding U. S. Armies, City Point, Va.:

I propose to issue the following order for the organization of an extra army corps. Please examine and favor me with any suggestions you may have immediately. I want to give public notice immediately and hope to raise it by 1st of December:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
October 25, 1864.

Ordered, That an army corps, to consist of not less than 20,000 infantry, and enlisted for not less than one year, to be designated the First Corps, shall be organized at Washington, commencing the organization on Wednesday, the 9th day of November, and continuing until the 1st day of December. The privates to consist only of able-bodied men, who have served honorably not less than two years, and therefore not subject to draft; the officers to be commissioned by the President from such as have honorably served not less than two years. The accepted recruits will be refunded their transportation to Washington, will be credited to the district in which they or their families are domiciled, and will be paid a special bounty of $500 upon being mustered into service. Each recruit who preserves his arms to the end of his term will have the privilege of retaining them. Details of organization will be prescribed by the adjutant-general. The heads of bureaus will detail competent officers for the prompt examination and organization, arming, equipping, and supplying the corps.

Major-General Hancock is assigned to the command of this corps when organized.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 25, 1864.*

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch of 2 p. m. in relation to the organization of a new army corps from veterans who have been discharged the service is received. I do not see any suggestions I can make improving the plan proposed by you. It will prove a success and will give us a body of men equal to any army now in service.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *October 25, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Mr. Romero, the Mexican minister, and General Doblado, with a staff officer, will visit your headquarters to-day with letters for you. They leave here in the 10.55 train.

ADAM BADEAU,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Military Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 25, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing very important to report this morning. Signal officers yesterday evening and this morning report movements of small bodies of the enemy, generally to their right. Deserters confirm the previous

reports of the extension of the enemy's line of works on their right to Hatcher's Run, and the evidence would seem to indicate this line is completed. Last evening two divisions of the Second Corps were withdrawn from the lines and are now massed in the rear as reserves.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff.

GENERAL: A deserter from the Twenty-seventh North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, came into our lines this morning. His statements corroborated the information of yesterday regarding the position of McGowan's, Cooke's, and Archer's brigades. He states that working parties from every brigade in Heth's division have been detailed to work on fortifications still farther to the right of McGowan's brigade. That he has been nearly two miles to the right of his brigade (Cooke's), where the detail from his regiment was at work. The dismounted cavalry is immediately on McGowan's right. The works are not of an extensive character, but are all constructed with slashings or abatis. In McGowan's front they are fully completed, and informant thinks the whole line must be nearly finished by this time. No general information of any importance.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following reports, just received, are respectfully forwarded:

CHURCH ROAD STATION, *October 25, 1864—9 a. m.*

At 7.45 a. m. the two regiments lying in works near Jones' struck tents and packed up. A small working party of about twenty men left them and went westward along the works. At 8 a. m. a small regiment passed along the works near Jones' going eastward; mounted officers have rolled blankets on their horses. These two regiments still remain in works near Jones'.

J. L. P[RAY],
Signal Corps.

The station near the Friend house reports the enemy to be strengthening the breast-works in his front; to have built a covered road between the new fort and their works to right of city and bomb-proofs in the fort.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

Major FISHER:

This a. m. a working party has been engaged strengthening the picket-posts near the Bailey house and a party of twenty-five has been similarly engaged near the site of the W. W. Davis house, strengthening the pits there with logs and enlarging them. Unusual cheering in the enemy's camps on the Duncan road and near the R. Jones house.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

Lieutenant STRYKER:

I have seen Sergeant Jordan and learn that he observed a dust on the road mentioned. The dust extended from a quarter to half a mile but he was unable to discover any movement or tell from which direction the dust originated. It was near dark and very hazy. He merely stated that the dust was there but could give no opinion at all in reference to it.

R. P. STRONG,
Signal Officer.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 25, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

Those troops before reported in works near Jones' have encamped on that ground. At 2 p. m. one regiment was drilling in open field near Boisseau's. Nothing further has become visible since last report.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

(Also sent to Capt. C. L. Davis.)

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: My stations report no movements seen to-day. The enemy at some points came out in line this morning as if about to strike their camp, but afterward quietly dispersed to their quarters. Considerable cheering in the enemy's lines along the Duncan road and near the R. Jones house this p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 25, 1864.

The instructions contained in the accompanying order will be regarded by those receiving the order as confidential, especially those portions that relate to an attack upon the enemy's lines.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 25, 1864.

The following movements are ordered:

1. The troops assigned to holding the intrenchments during the operations on our left will be supplied with not less than six days' full rations from Thursday, the 27th instant, and the prescribed amount of artillery and infantry ammunition.

2. On the afternoon of the 26th instant (Wednesday) Major-General Hancock, commanding Second Corps, will move the divisions of his corps now in reserve to the Vaughan road just outside the line of rear intrenchments. They will take routes well to the rear so as to avoid the observation of the enemy, and every precaution will be taken during the night to conceal the movement. At 2 a. m. of the 27th General Hancock will move by the Vaughan road, cross Hatcher's Run, pass by Dabney's Mill and Wilson and Arnold's steam saw-mill on the Boydton plank road; cross the open country to Claiborne's road near its intersection with the White Oak road, and, recrossing Hatcher's Run near the Claiborne road bridge, will take the road running northeast from the vicinity of the bridge to the South Side Railroad, and endeavor to seize a commanding position on that road. In this operation General Gregg's cavalry will form part of General Hancock's command and will move on his left. General Hancock will probably be able to reach the Boydton plank road by the time General Parke attacks the enemy's right between Claypole's and Hatcher's Run.

3. General Gregg will concentrate his cavalry on the afternoon of the 26th instant (Wednesday) at some point toward the left convenient for crossing Hatcher's Run by the first route below that used by Hancock's infantry, and which shall not disclose the movement to the observation of the enemy. Every precaution will be taken to conceal the movement. His pickets from the vicinity of the plank road westward will be relieved in time to accompany him on the morning of the 27th. Upon concentrating his command he will report to Major-General Hancock. General Gregg will move on the morning of the 27th (Thursday), not later than 2 o'clock, cross Hatcher's Run below the Second Corps and move on the left of the infantry, probably using the Quaker road as far as the Boydton plank. His route must be governed by that of the Second Corps.

4. Major-General Parke, commanding Ninth Corps, will move at such hour of the morning of the 27th as will enable him to attack the right of the enemy's infantry, between Hatcher's Run and their new works at Hawks' and Dabney's, at the dawn of day. It is probable that the enemy's line of intrenchments is incomplete at that point, and the commanding general expects, by a secret and sudden movement, to surprise them and carry their half-formed works. General Parke will therefore move and attack vigorously at the time named, not later than 5.30,

and, if successful, will follow up the enemy closely, turning toward the right. Should he not break the enemy's line, General Parke will remain confronting them until the operations on the left draw off the enemy.

5. Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps, will, if practicable, move simultaneously with the Ninth Corps, and proceed to the crossing of Hatcher's Run, below the plank road bridge, from which point he will support the Ninth Corps, and if the attack is successful, follow up the enemy, moving on the left of the Ninth Corps. Should General Parke fail to break the enemy's line General Warren will cross Hatcher's Run and endeavor to turn the enemy's right by recrossing at the first practicable point above the Boydton plank road, keeping on the right of Hancock. He will then turn toward the plank road and open the plank-road bridge.

6. The ammunition wagons, extra caissons, intrenching tools, medicine and hospital wagons and forage wagons allowed with the troops will not accompany them on the morning of the 27th, but will be left parked at the most secure point near their bivouacs, and will be brought up at such time during the day as may be found best. The ambulances will accompany the troops.

7. The troops will take four days' full rations on the person, counting from Thursday morning, the 27th. Sixty rounds of ammunition will be taken on the person. Forty rounds of infantry ammunition, and one-half the small-arm ammunition of the cavalry will be taken in wagons. In addition to the artillery ammunition carried in the limber chest and caisson, fifty additional rounds will be taken for each 12-pounder gun, to be carried in the caissons of the guns in the inclosed works. Not more than one forge and one battery wagon will be taken for every twelve guns. One-half the ambulances, with all the stretchers, will accompany the troops, and one medicine and one hospital wagon for each brigade. The intrenching tools will be taken. No baggage or headquarters wagons will be allowed, but instead such pack animals as may be absolutely necessary for the rations and tents of officers. A few wagons for forage will be allowed. In the cavalry each trooper will carry as much grain as practicable; such forage wagons as are absolutely indispensable for the time of the operation will also be allowed for the cavalry. All other trains and wagons than those just specified will be sent during the night of Wednesday, the 26th, within the intrenchments covering City Point, under the direction of the chief quartermaster of the army.

8. The horses and such caissons belonging to the artillery in the inclosed works as are not taken with the troops will be moved during Wednesday night within the intrenchments covering City Point. An officer from each corps will be detailed to take charge of them; the whole to be parked with the train of the Artillery Reserve under the orders of the officer in charge of that train. The surplus forges and battery wagons of the batteries with the troops will accompany them.

9. The quartermaster's and commissary depots on the railroad will be broken up during the night of the 26th.

10. Every man on detached, special, extra, or daily duty that can be temporarily placed in the ranks for an emergency will be armed and equipped and sent to the ranks for this operation. The commanding general requests the earnest attention of corps commanders to this point.

11. Headquarters will be moved on Wednesday to the vicinity of Poplar Spring Church. During the early part of the operation the commanding general will be with the right wing. The troops at head-

quarters and the engineer troops, the whole under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding, will be held in reserve at Poplar Spring Church for such service as may be required of them. A full supply of intrenching tools will be kept with them.

12. The chief quartermaster of the army will arm and equip every man that can be spared from the trains, place them under the command of officers of his department, and send them to the intrenchments covering City Point under the command of General Benham.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
October 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Armies of the United States:

SIR: I deem it proper, in reference to the previous verbal instructions of the lieutenant-general and in view of the expected advance of the armies to the front, to inclose to you a statement* of the force I now have at command for the defense of this post with which I am charged. I presume the lieutenant-general would desire to know the details of this force, being well assured that either this or such other as he shall consider fully adequate to hold this position, whatever the distance of the armies may be, will be left for its defense, and I accordingly feel that he may rely upon it that the place will never be surrendered by me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT, VA.,
October 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to state that I have here at this time under my command for completing and protecting the lines the troops and guns as shown by the inclosed estimate, the two four-gun field batteries, Third Maine and Third Vermont, having reported within the last twelve hours. It will be seen that about 1,546 of the 3,119 infantry and engineer troops require arms, for the issuing of which every exertion has been made since yesterday afternoon, and I trust that the major part will have their arms this afternoon and the balance before noon to-morrow. I have this morning ridden over the lines with Colonel Abbot and arranged to the satisfaction of both of us for the distribution of the ten siege guns he is ordered to send to me and which I shall expect to-morrow; and these, with the fourteen field guns, with the two more expected by the Third Vermont Battery, will, I trust, be very well arranged for as a means for defense. I inclose also a copy of the project I have prepared for the distribution of the men and guns for the defense along these lines for the information of the commanding general.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

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* See inclosure No. 1, p. 343.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

Estimate of force October 25 for defense of the advance lines of City Point, independent of such as may be furnished in emergencies from the department of the provost-marshal-general.

Regiments, battalions, &c.	No. men for duty last report.	Remarks.
205th Pennsylvania Regiment (from General Butler's army).	776	New recruits, and in the trenches or on picket for nearly all the time since joined.
61st Massachusetts Battalion (five companies).	401	New recruits, and in the trenches ever since they joined.
18th New Hampshire Battalion (five companies).	333	New recruits, and in the trenches ever since they joined; two companies entirely without arms (expecting them from their State), to be armed to-day.
8th Delaware Battalion (three companies).	247	New recruits, and in the trenches ever since they joined; worthless arms issued in their State; to be re-armed to-day.
Independent company of New York volunteers.	55	New recruits, and in the trenches ever since they joined; no arms; to be armed to-day.
Total infantry	1,812	
Engineer Brigade.		
50th Engineers (detachment of repair company).	57	For repairs of boats and care of bridges, &c.; armed.
15th Engineers (two companies and one partial company).	209	Required for guarding public property here; armed.
15th Engineers (one company)	127	Recruits, with but one officer; but little squad drill; no arms; to be armed to-day.
50th Regiment (six companies of unassigned recruits).	850	All of these in the trenches for the past three weeks, a part having had squad drill previously. No officers at all duly commissioned; persons claiming to have been mustered as such.
Surplus recruits, over full members, for both regiments.	64	All in the trenches without drill since their arrival; no officer at all.
Total engineers	1,307	
Total engineers and infantry	3,119	

Engineers and infantry without arms, to be armed to-day, 1,546.

Artillery.—The Second Maine Battery, six field pieces; now at Old Court-House. Third Vermont Battery, four field pieces; reported as arrived within the lines during the night.

In addition, Col. H. L. Abbot reports orders to send from Broadway Landing ten siege pieces; to be arranged for to-day. The Third Maine Battery, four guns, reported at 10 a. m. on October 25, 1864. Total number of guns, twenty-four.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Defenses.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

Distribution of men and guns for defense of lines City Point.

Redoubt.	Command.	Cannon, with artillerists.
No. 1	Lieutenant Dibbell's provisional company of engineers.	Two pieces of 3d Maine Battery.
No. 2	Captain Rogers' provisional company of engineers and 50 of Lieutenant Ryding's provisional company.	Two guns 3d Maine and two siege guns.
No. 3	Lieutenant Ryding's provisional company, 100 men.	Two guns 3d Vermont Battery.
No. 4	Captain Pond's provisional company and independent company New York Volunteers.	Two guns 3d Vermont Battery.
No. 5	Lieutenant Burke's provisional company	Three siege guns.
No. 6	Lieutenant Linsley and 100 men of 15th Engineers.	Two guns 2d Maine Battery.
On line 37–38		Two guns 2d Maine Battery.
No. 7	Lieutenant Henderson, 50 men of Company F and 64 surplus men.	Two siege guns.
Old Court-House redoubt.	8th Delaware Battalion	Two guns 2d Maine and three siege guns.

205th Pennsylvania Regiment, movable, south of railroad.
61st Massachusetts and 18th New Hampshire Battalions, movable, north of railroad.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Defenses, &c.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 25, 1864.*

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
October 25, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER EIGHTH DELAWARE VOLUNTEERS:

SIR: You will move your command to-morrow in time to arrive at the Old Court-House redoubts on left of the fortifications at 12 m., where the commanding general will designate a new camping-ground for you. You will have your present ground thoroughly policed before leaving.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

The Second and Third Divisions were relieved from the line last night by the First. Fatigue detail were at work last night on new works near Avery's house and Dunn's house. There are 900 men on fatigue this morning. The enemy did a good deal of work last night building bomb-proofs, covered ways, &c., near the rear works they have erected opposite Fort McGilvery.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Several contrabands came in just now from Sussex. They passed between Lee's Mill and the Norfolk railroad; saw nothing but a few patrols.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 25, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Hunt will direct the officer in charge of siege artillery to report to General Miles.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Miles reports that since he has taken up the second line between Stedman and McGilvery, and occupied the first with pickets where he formerly had vedettes, the picket detail has been increased

by about 300 men, making the entire picket detail about 1,900 instead of 1,600. He has 6,254 muskets, though he reports 6,800 for duty, the balance being 400 musicians and other non-combatants. He ought, therefore, to have the regiment at Cedar Level, and I request that it may go to him when the depot is broken up. With this regiment General Miles thinks his force sufficient.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 25, 1864. (Sent 12 m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Send the regiment at Cedar Level to General Miles when the depot is broken up.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

This camp will be struck at noon to-morrow, the 26th instant. No transportation for baggage or supplies other than pack animals will be allowed to accompany the headquarters on the movement contemplated. All public and personal property will be turned over to the chief quartermaster of the corps. Officers and men will be restricted to such articles only as they can conveniently carry on their persons or horses. A pack animal will be allowed to every two messes of officers.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

The Second and Third Divisions of this command will be prepared to move promptly at 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon, October 26, 1864, the men to have sixty rounds of ammunition on the person, three days' full rations in haversack, and three days' hard bread, sugar, coffee, &c., in knapsack, to count from the morning of the 27th. Forty rounds of ammunition per man will accompany the division in wagons, half the ambulances, one medicine wagon, and one hospital wagon for each brigade, and all the wagons containing the intrenching tools. Other than these, no wagons, spring or otherwise, will be allowed to accompany the column. The forage for officers' horses and the rations, &c., for officers must be packed. Such a number of pack-mules as may be absolutely necessary for this purpose will be allowed. All animals and vehicles not accompanying the troops will be sent to City Point. The general trains will move under the direction of the chief quartermaster. Forage, subsistence, &c., required from the trains must be drawn and issued by 12 m. to-morrow. The order of march will be indicated in orders to-morrow.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

The following changes will be made in the disposition ordered for to-morrow: Four days' rations on the person instead of six will be taken, counting from the morning of the 27th. One day's salt meat will be taken in the haversack and three days' beef on the hoof. One forage wagon will be allowed to each division for forage for officers' horses, and one forage wagon to each battery.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the following changes in the positions of the artillery were made last night: Battery F, First Pennsylvania Artillery, was relieved in Battery 10 by a section of White's (Fourth Maine), which was withdrawn from Fort Haskell. The other section of Battery F was withdrawn from Fort Stedman, and the whole battery parked near the Norfolk road in rear of the Deserted House. Battery H, First Ohio, was moved from Fort Sedgwick, a section was placed in Battery 13 and one in Battery 14, relieving the Tenth Massachusetts Battery, six guns, which was moved to the neighborhood of Fort Bross. Captain Mayo's (Third Maine) battery was relieved in Fort Rice by a section of Battery A, First New Jersey Artillery. Captain Mayo then reported with his battery to Brigadier-General Benham, at City Point. One gun of E, First Rhode Island (light 12-pounder), from Fort Rice, was placed in railroad battery, and the gun of A, First New Jersey, relieved, went into Fort Rice. The Fourteenth Massachusetts Battery was withdrawn, one section from Fort Bross and one from the rear of Fort Sedgwick. The Third Vermont Battery was withdrawn from Battery No. 16. The commanding officers of these batteries were ordered to report with their commands to Brigadier-General Benham, at City Point. Battery K, Fourth U. S. Artillery, which was withdrawn previously, moved to the neighborhood of Fort Bross. Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, and First New Hampshire Battery, which were also in reserve, moved to the neighborhood of the Southall house. The caisson camps of the batteries remaining in position were moved back out of sight of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division, Second Army Corps:

General Hancock suggests to the general commanding that signal stations be kept up at the Friend house, Avery house, and Fort Davis.

I have directed these stations of observation to remain as they are. Reports of all observations made from them will be reported to you. Please forward the same to these headquarters.

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that all wagons, animals, artillery, &c., not on or under the protection of the line, must be moved to City Point to-morrow afternoon or night. The chief quartermaster will assign some position for your general train. Your troops will be rationed with six days' full rations from the 27th. Whatever forage and subsistence you require from the train should be drawn and issued by 12 m. to-morrow. Your intrenching tools you can keep with you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General EGAN,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires to be informed whether you have moved your headquarters, and, if so, where they are located. It is important, and orders require, that all such changes should be immediately reported to these headquarters. A brigade of your division (the Second) was seen to come over the plain a few minutes since in full view of the enemy toward its new camp. If that brigade worked till after daylight the general says it should not have done so. He desires to know whether it did or not; and, if not, why the movement was not made to their new camp before daylight, so as to avoid the observation of the enemy, as the orders required in this movement of troops. Please answer by messenger.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to state, in answer to your communication of this date, that Captain Doten, of my staff, informed Major Mitchell

this morning of the change in the location of my headquarters. My command was not relieved by the First Division until 2.30 this a. m. I then moved my headquarters with my troops. The order detailing the fatigue party, 500 men, from my command, last evening, stated that they would be relieved in the morning. They were not relieved until 9 o'clock this morning. I sent a staff officer to lead them to the new camp by the most concealed route, and he informs me that he conducted them here, so that, in his opinion, they were entirely out of view of the enemy. I gave the most positive instructions to the commanding officer of the Second Brigade myself, about 11 o'clock last night, that in case he was relieved before daylight this morning he would march his command to this camp in rear of Fort Bross. The officer in charge of the fatigue detail from the Second Brigade states that the engineer officer to whom he reported directed him to discontinue working at 4 o'clock this morning, and that he then reported his command at the Avery house without any instructions from the brigade commander to move from there, and he consequently waited for further orders. I shall hold the commanding officer of the Second Brigade responsible for neglecting my most positive instructions. Through the neglect of one of my staff officers my headquarters was not reported upon my arrival here.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. W. EGAN,

Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this division has been relieved by the First Division, with the exception of the garrisons of Forts Blaisdell, Bross, and Stevenson, and is now massed on the clearing near the Southall house. Nothing further of note occurred since my last report.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,

Brevet Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to inform you that the garrisons at Forts Stevenson and Patrick Kelly can join your command early to-morrow morning. It is not known that any of your men are at work to-night. The general desires them all to rest.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,

Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual occurred in my front yesterday or during the night. All was quiet.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 51. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

I. The command will move at dawn on Thursday, 27th instant. Each man will carry sixty rounds of ammunition on his person and four days' full rations, from 27th instant.

II. Wagons to carry forty rounds of ammunition per man, two days' forage for the horses of the mounted officers, and the spring-wagons allowed to the several headquarters. One-half the ambulances, with all the stretchers, will be prepared to accompany the troops. No baggage or headquarters wagons will be allowed, but instead such pack animals will be used as will be necessary for carrying rations and tents of officers. All other trains and wagons than just specified will be sent during the night of the 26th within the intrenchments at City Point under the direction of the chief quartermaster of the army. The vehicles not sent to City Point and pack animals will not march with the troops, but remain parked by divisions in secure positions near their present encampments, to be sent for as occasion may require.

III. Every man on detached service, special, extra, or daily duty that can be temporarily placed in the ranks for an emergency will be armed and equipped and sent to the ranks for this operation.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 266. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

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II. The One hundred and eighty-seventh Regiment New York Volunteers having reported in compliance with paragraph V, Special Orders, No. 287, from headquarters Army of the Potomac, is assigned to the First Division, and will report to Brigadier-General Bartlett, commanding.

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By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 152. } HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

1. The Thirty-second Massachusetts Volunteers is hereby transferred from the Second to the Third Brigade, and will report accordingly.

2. In accordance with Special Orders, No. 358, War Department, current series, the Eighteenth and Twenty-second Massachusetts Battalions are consolidated with the Thirty-second Massachusetts Volunteers, and the commanding officers of those battalions will report with their commands to the commanding officer Thirty-second Massachusetts Volunteers without delay.

3. The One hundred and eighty-seventh New York Volunteers having reported in compliance with Special Orders, No. 266, headquarters Fifth Corps, are hereby assigned to the Second Brigade, Brevet Brigadier-General Gregory commanding, and will report accordingly.

By command of Brigadier-General Bartlett:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours. A deserter from the Twenty-seventh North Carolina has been forwarded. He has nothing new to communicate.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 211. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, Va., October 25, 1864.

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5. I. The line of works from Fort Fisher to Fort Cummings will be garrisoned as follows: Fort Fisher—Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Thirty-first Maine Volunteers, Lieut. Col. E. L. Getchell, Thirty-first Maine Volunteers, commanding; Fort Welch—Fifty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers, Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, Seventeenth Vermont Volunteers, Lieut. Col. J. C. Whiton, Fifty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding; Fort Gregg—Eighth Michigan Volunteers, recruits of Fifty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lieut. Col. Ralph Ely commanding; Fort Sampson—Third Maryland Volunteers, Capt. Joseph F. Carter commanding; Fort Cummings—Forty-sixth New York Volunteers, Capt. Adolph Becker commanding.

II. Division commanders will see that the troops composing these garrisons belonging to their commands, respectively, are supplied with six days' rations and 200 rounds of ammunition per man.

III. These regiments will encamp in immediate vicinity of the redoubts garrisoned by them, respectively, and are expected to picket their entire front.

IV. Lieut. Col. Ralph Ely, Eighth Michigan Volunteers, being the senior officer, is assigned to the command of the whole line, and will report in person at these headquarters for special instructions.

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

In accordance with permission from the general commanding Ninth Army Corps, the following change will be made in the troops garrisoning the forts on the line held by this command: The Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteers will be relieved as part of the garrison at Fort Welch by the Fifty-first New York Volunteers. The commanding officer Twenty-first Massachusetts will report to his brigade commander. The commanding officer Fifty-first New York Volunteers will report to Lieut. Col. John C. Whiton, commanding Fort Welch and the forces holding the line of Second Division, Ninth Army Corps.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAMUEL WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 25, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

Tracing my communication on the subject of brevets, I find it left General Grant's office, directed to the War Department, some ten days ago. In that communication and in others I have had the honor to recommend the following list of officers for promotion to brigadier-generals by brevet, excepting First Lieut. Peter S. Michie, whom I desire, for reasons set forth and for most meritorious services, should have two brevets in the army, making him major as he is assigned chief engineer of this army. The reasons for these promotions will be found set forth in my written communication and in General Orders, No. —, of this department:* Col. Francis A. Osborn, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers; Col. Alvin C. Voris, Sixty seventh Ohio Volunteers; Col. N. Martin Curtis, One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers; Col. Alonzo G. Draper, Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops; Col. Samuel A. Duncan, Fourth U. S. Colored Troops; Col. Joseph C. Abbott, Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers; Maj. B. C. Ludlow, Fourth Missouri Cavalry; First Lieut. Peter S. Michie, U. S. Engineers.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at James River reports:

Enemy building a line of rifle-pits from Cox's Ferry in a southwest direction in rear of other works. Buildings at the ferry are being torn down on south side of the river. Think the enemy has mounted two heavy guns in a work to their right of three-gun battery near the river, bearing toward the Eighteenth Army Corps lines to the left of Fort Harrison; also building a battery a short distance to their left of the two-angled battery on north side of river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

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* See address of October 11, p. 161.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer in front of Tenth Army Corps reports for the day:

About 250 negroes at work increasing the height of the breast-works between Fort Gilmer and the New Market road. This line of breast-works is already so high as to screen from view the light battery of four pieces previously reported as having been placed behind it. The negroes are not uniformed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 25, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

General Meade cannot spare any men for General Benham's guns. He says you must give him as many instructed gunners as you can, and he must find the other men for the mere labor part himself. Can you not manage to give him a company?

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 25, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT,
Broadway Landing:

The mortar battery in No. 20 should be moved to-morrow or to-morrow night near enough to Fort Sedgwick to bring it under the protection of the garrison there. Your batteries should be rationed to-morrow morning to include Tuesday, November 1. The forts only will be left occupied. The troops are moving from the lines. The engineers are putting up a battery for Pratt near the Avery house. Will you attend to these affairs to-morrow? Let me know. Has additional ammunition been furnished to your batteries on the line? Major Brooker will be ordered to report to General Miles.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA.,
October 25, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Defenses of City Point, &c.:

GENERAL: I am just starting for headquarters Army of the Potomac. General Hunt telegraphs that no troops can be furnished for the ten guns. I am going to try to get some by personal application. Without troops no advantage could result from the guns. I will advise you of the result at once.

Yours, very truly,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 25, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the rebel fire at the canal was confined to about two hours in the middle of the day. No one injured as I could see or hear. Returned their fire with the 4.5-inch gun; killed a single man while crossing the field leaving the battery. Have moved all my men from the Gap, excepting enough to work one piece and the magazines. Shall bring the mortars away early to-morrow morning. Sent the light pieces this p. m. Put my last recruits on detachment to-day; they work splendidly; almost like old men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 43.

HDQRS. TENTH ARMY CORPS, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., October 25, 1864.

As a token of respect for the memory of the late commander of this corps, Maj. Gen. David Bell Birney, the colors of the regiments, of the batteries, and of the several headquarters will wear the usual badge of mourning for the period of thirty days from November 1.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieut., 2d U. S. Sharpshooters, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., October 25, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. WEITZEL,
Commanding Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In reply to your telegram to Lieutenant-Colonel Kensel in relation to the control of the artillery within your command, I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that all the artillery on this side of the James River and within the limits occupied by your corps is under your control. The company of First Connecticut Artillery serving at Dutch Gap will, however, be reported by General Graham as present with the regiment. The artillery on the other side of the James will be under the control of General Graham, but the light batteries belonging to the Eighteenth Corps, on his line, will be reported by the commanding officer of the Artillery Brigade of that corps.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

Have those troops that are to report to me come up yet? Please order them to report to me as soon as they arrive.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, October 25, 1864

To-morrow, at 6 a. m., the following change in the position of troops on the line of this corps will be made: A brigade of the Second Division, to be composed of the Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery and two such other regiments from the Second Division as General Heckman may designate, together with the One hundred and seventh U. S. Colored Troops, under the command of the ranking officer, will take position from the right of our present line to the first redoubt on the left of Fort Burnham, including this redoubt and Fort Burnham. This brigade will be placed in position by Colonel Jourdan. The One hundred and seventeenth and One hundred and eighteenth U. S. Colored Troops will report to Colonel Ames, commanding Third Brigade, Third Division, to be attached to this brigade. Colonel Ames, with his command, will take position and hold from the left of the line occupied by the above brigade to the left redoubt of our line, on the lower Kingsland road. Colonel Cole with his regiment will occupy the last-mentioned redoubt and the extreme left of the line. As soon as the above-mentioned troops have taken their position they will report to Colonel Jourdan, One hundred and fifty-eighth [New York] Volunteers, who will command the troops on the line. The whole First Division, the two remaining brigades of the Second Division, and the First and Second Brigades of the Third Division will move to the open field on the Varina road, about a quarter of a mile in rear of these headquarters and bivouac and mass in that field, the First Division in front, next the Second Division, and the Third Division in rear. Colonel Jourdan will then have his troops occupying this line provided with provisions for three days and at least 200 rounds of ammunition to each man and gun, and will instruct the commanding officers of the redoubts to hold them in case of attack as long as possible. The troops that are moved into Cox's field will, as soon as they get into their positions, be provided with sixty rounds of ammunition to each man, to be carried on their persons, and 100 rounds to be carried in wagons. To-morrow afternoon they will be provided with three days' cooked rations, commencing on the morning of the 27th. Each brigade of this force will be allowed one wagon to carry provisions for the officers of the brigade.

By command of Brevet Major-General Weitzel:

D. D. WHEELER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864—9 a. m. (Sent 10 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

A scouting party, sent out by General Gregg down the Norfolk railroad, captured some scouts of the enemy and brought in a Mr. Heath, a magistrate, who has been very active in conscripting for the rebel army. They also captured, at Disputanta, a large number of telegraphic dispatches, showing the enemy have been taking off the dispatches from the wire running down the river. I send by orderly a few of these dispatches, containing information of use to the enemy, and would suggest some caution being given to subordinate officers not putting their

telegrams in cipher. All these dispatches have been sent to the provost-marshal-general. Six deserters came in last night. Have no changes or anything new to report.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *October 26, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

General GEORGE G. MEADE:

Your orders* for to-morrow have been received and read. The only point on which I would suggest a change is in regard to Parke's movement. If he finds the enemy's fortifications in good defensible condition and manned I think he should only confront them until the movement of the other two corps had its effect.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The orders for to-morrow intend that Parke should act in the manner you suggest; that is to say, he will not attack if he finds the enemy in such position and force as renders it injudicious to do so, but as his movement is to be made at daylight or just before he will have to make a partial attack to ascertain the exact condition of affairs unless he waits till after daylight, and, if he does, I am quite sure he will have no chance.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 26, 1864.

Captain PAINE:

At 8 a. m. a working party of twenty-five men left works near Jones' and passed westward along the works, otherwise, no movements have yet been discovered.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

STATION FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
October 26, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

There is considerable commotion in the enemy's front on Boydton plank road near Butterworth's house and in fort on east bank of Lieutenant Creek, near large yellow house. About 300 men left the works (east of) near the large yellow house and moved westward along the

*See circular, October 25, p. 340.

works, disappearing behind the lead-works. A camp of about a small regiment has disappeared from the Boydton plank road near Butterworth's. The enemy is strengthening his picket-line near the Bailey house, by making the pits a connected rifle-pit.

C. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Signal Officer.

AVERY HOUSE, *October 26, 1864—4.40 p. m.*

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 12.30 p. m. the ambulance train of the enemy, that has been for a time parked on the open space on the hill to the right of the city, moved away, going to the left. A small detail of the enemy's infantry have been at work strengthening the right of the long river battery northwest of station. No movement of troops or trains has been seen this p. m.

B. W. MARCY,
In Charge of Station.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 26, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Between 12 m. and 3 p. m. a train of sixteen wagons and some small squads of cavalry moved from Petersburg to our left and disappeared on road running west from large fort on Weldon railroad. Smoke has prevented a view of the left since 3 p. m.; up to that time camps were unchanged, but presented more than an ordinary amount of activity. No changes have occurred in our immediate front.

A. K. CAROTHERS,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 26, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

At 10 a. m. six wagons passed eastward on Boydton plank road. At 11.30 a. m. a pioneer party of about 200 men made their appearance near works near Jones'. About three regiments of infantry, in all about 3,000 men, have spent the p. m. drilling near works between fort 30 degrees east of north and lead-works.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

Stations report no movements this p. m., and all quiet on the enemy's lines seen from the stations. Sergeants Sleeper and Aiken will occupy, respectively, the Church road and Fort Howard stations at daylight to-morrow as directed.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 112. } *City Point, Va., October 26, 1864.*

I. Brig. Gen H. W. Benham, commanding Engineer Brigade, Army of the Potomac and Defenses of City Point, is hereby relieved from such commands and from duty with the Army of the Potomac, and will report in person to Brig. Gen. Richard Delafield, Chief Engineer, Washington, D. C., for orders.

II. Brig. Gen. M. R. Patrick, U. S. Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the troops and defenses at City Point, and will immediately assume said command.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 289. } *October 26, 1864.*

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6. Lieut. Col. Ira Spaulding, Fiftieth New York Engineers, is assigned for the present to the command of the Engineer Brigade, and will enter upon duty accordingly.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Nothing unusual has occurred during the night. Six deserters came in, belonging to Johnson's and Mahone's divisions. They have nothing new; say that the intrenchments are held by Johnson, Mahone, and the militia, and that all detailed men have been returned, and even the artillerymen furnished with muskets.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Captain Ryckman, commanding cavalry pickets from Weldon railroad to the infantry left, has been directed by the commanding general to keep up his pickets until you order him to relieve them, and to report to you and remain with you during the operation. Captain Ryckman is on the Vaughan road about a mile or a mile and a half beyond the intrenchments.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 26, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: My troops are in bivouac near the Lewis and Perkins houses—the rear just coming in. They stopped here, owing to some difficulty about finding the designated point, the rear line of intrenchments not being marked on my maps, and with the understanding that when we march in the morning the column moves out the Church road by Colonel Wyatt's, and from thence by a cross-road three-quarters of a mile from Colonel Wyatt's to the Vaughan road. We strike the Vaughan road at the point marked Mrs. Davis' on the map, and really will gain time by the operation. We can move from here at an earlier hour and go by the Vaughan house, if necessary. Owing to this change I have established my headquarters at the Lewis house. Captain Paine can explain the position to you, as he has been here.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch received. It is not necessary to go by the Vaughan house, but take the shortest route in the manner you propose. I have already sent you a note about Captain Ryckman's command of cavalry.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

You would have found the rear line of works readily from Fort Dushane, from which a road ran along them.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: General Gregg tells me he learns from deserters that the Vaughan road, particularly near Hatcher's Run, is much obstructed by slashing. I cannot say where daylight will find me. I am of the opinion that nothing will be gained by starting at such an early hour, moving over an obstructed road held by the enemy. I fear that the command will be much separated in the night. I do not, however, suggest any changes, but think by starting at a later hour we can make the same distance in better order. It is not light till about 5.30.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864—8.30 p. m. (Received 9 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch received. The commanding general modifies the hour of your starting to 3.30. This will bring you to the vicinity of Hatcher's Run about 5.30; that is, the dawn of day. You will advise Gregg accordingly, I suppose.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

The Second and Third Divisions of this command will move at 2 p. m., the Third Division in advance. The line of march will be from the Southall house, through the wood by the Widow Smith's, Williams', and Gurley's houses, and Fort Dushane. The command will bivouac just outside the line and near the Vaughan house. Staff officers from each of these divisions will report at these headquarters at 12 m. to accompany an officer from these headquarters to select camping grounds. The chief of artillery will assign two batteries to the Third Division and one to the Second Division. The ambulances and wagons permitted to accompany the troops will move in rear of the divisions to which they belong. At the termination of the march the men will be strictly confined to their camps. No calls will be sounded and only small fires allowed.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

The command will move at 2 a. m. to-morrow, the 27th, as follows: The infantry command, General Egan leading, by the Church road to the Vaughan road, thence across Hatcher's Run, by Dabney's Mill, to the Boydton plank road. General Egan will move with an advanced guard well out. Great care will be taken to keep the troops well closed, and the march will not be hastened unduly before daylight. General Gregg, commanding cavalry, will send a squadron of cavalry in advance of the infantry column. General Gregg will move by Rowanty Post-Office to the Vaughan road, communicating with the infantry column whenever practicable, following the general instructions for his command in the orders from headquarters of the army. From the present camp to the point where the Church and Halifax roads diverge, the road will be used in common by the infantry and cavalry. The cavalry will take the left and the infantry command right of the road to the point of separation. To prevent confusion the commanders of troops will, by means of staff officers and guides, force the troops to keep on the right and left of the road respectively. A guide will be furnished General Egan. None of the wagons allowed, except ambu-

lances, will move with the troops. They will be assembled between this camp and the Gurley house, under charge of Lieutenant Hunter, acting assistant quartermaster, ready to move when directed.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

In pursuance to the above order this command will move at 2 a. m. to-morrow. The order of march will be the same as to-day, viz., First Brigade, Second Brigade, Third Brigade, artillery, ambulances. The ammunition train and other vehicles to return to Fort Dushane, and there await until further orders.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott.

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, 2D CORPS,
No. 180. } *October 26, 1864.*

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II. During the absence of the major commanding, Capt. A. Judson Clark, First New Jersey Artillery, will have command of the artillery on the line.

By command of Maj. Jno. G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 26, 1864—9.45 p. m.

1. Brigade and battery commanders are informed the order to move is changed from 2 to 3.30 to-morrow morning.

2. The following will be the order of march: First Brigade, General De Trobriand: Second Brigade, General B. R. Pierce; Third Brigade, Col. Robert McAllister. At 1.40 o'clock the men will take arms and a roll call will be made. Brigade and regimental commanders are instructed to use all means in their power to prevent straggling. The batteries will follow the Third Brigade; the ambulances will follow the batteries; the ammunition train will follow the ambulances. No other spring or other vehicles will be allowed.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front yesterday or during the night. All was quiet.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Lieutenant EDIE,
Chief Ordnance Officer, Army of the Potomac:

No muskets have arrived yet for our corps. Please telegraph when we may expect them.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864—6.15 p. m. (Sent 6.45 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Parke has opened a route for you on the left of the fort at the Clements house from the open field, beyond which you take a road through the woods which leads out to the Duncan road, or at least to a house on that road (Westmoreland house, marked Miss Pegram's originally). There will be nothing to prevent your moving simultaneously with Parke as far as the Duncan road, and from that you will probably be able to find a route to Hatcher's Run.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Your dispatch of 6.45 p. m. is received. Major Roebling knows the road indicated in your telegram.

For Major-General Warren:

Respectfully.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

The orders for General Parke do not state any hour for him to start. My orders are out for my command to march at 5.30 a. m., starting from Parke's house.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

The commanding general considers the hour, 5.30 a. m., not early enough. General Parke will move at 3 o'clock, and the commanding general fixes 4 o'clock for the hour of your starting. General Parke

will to-night clear the road for you past Poplar Spring Church, Peebles' and Clements' house, the one running behind the rear line of intrenchments. You pass out on the left of the fort at Clements' house, and take a wood road running from what was the Conway house (destroyed) to the Westmoreland house and Duncan road. The Conway house was just in front of the fort at the Clements house. Have you had a staff officer over the route I mention, which is just opened by Parke? If not, had you not better send one?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

Furnished for the information of division commanders and the commander of the artillery brigade, who will move their commands promptly at 4 a. m.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864—9 p. m. (Received 9.15 p. m.)

General WARREN:

I have had an opening made through the parapet of the left of Fort Cummings, and also moved Ferrero's division back from the parapet, so that you can move along from the Vaughan road, directly behind the infantry parapets through it on the left of Fort Cummings. I will move out through the parapet on the right of Fort Cummings.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864. (Received 9.40 p. m.)

General WARREN:

General Humphreys telegraphs me to send a staff officer with one of yours over the road you are to take. If your troops take the Vaughan road to the rear line of parapet, and thence along it to Fort Cummings, there need be no collision; but if you wish I will have a staff officer accompany one of yours over the road.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 53. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

The following will be the order of march to-morrow:

I. The First Division will set out at 5.30 a. m., so as to keep closed on General Parke's column.

II. The Second Division, General Ayres', will set out at the same time by the road through the woods, so as to keep closed on the First Division.

III. The Third Division, General Crawford, will set out at the same time, so as to follow the Second Division.

IV. A battery of rifles and light 12-pounders will follow the First and Second Divisions; the third light 12-pounder will accompany the Third Division. Ambulances in rear of the corps.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

General BARTLETT:

I have sent orders for you to move at 5.30 a. m., so as to keep closed upon General Parke's corps. I think that will be as early as the rear of his column will be out of your way; but I wish you would call up and see him, as he is near you, and ascertain if that is not so. I find many things to look after or I would go over myself and arrange it more definitely. Please let me know by telegraph if my arrangements are right according to Parke's.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Parke moves at 3.30 a. m., and thinks the hour designated by you well timed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOS. J. BARTLETT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864—8 p. m.

General BARTLETT,
Commanding First Division, Fifth Corps:

Your dispatch received. The major-general says, be prompt to start at 5.30 a. m., as the other divisions move at the same hour; had just sent dispatch by orderly.

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

Lieut. Col. FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the following batteries which are to be left in garrison: Battery 24, two 3-inch rifles, Lieutenant

Miller; Battery 25, two light 12-pounders, Lieutenant Sheehy; Fort Howard, two light 12-pounders, two 3-inch rifles, Lieutenant McMahon; Battery 26, two 3-inch rifles, two light 12-pounders, Lieutenant Clark; Fort Wadsworth, four light 12-pounders, four 3-inch rifles, Captain Matthewson; Fort Keene, two 3-inch rifles, two light 12-pounders, Captain Ritchie; Fort Urmston, four light 12-pounders, two 3-inch rifles, Lieutenant Hazelton; Fort Conahey, two 3-inch rifles, two light 12-pounders, Captain Breck.

C. S. WAINWRIGHT,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864—9.25 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

As circumstances may require the movement to the front of your batteries in the inclosed works, the commanding general considers it best that the horses of these guns and their caissons should be placed in some secure place near the works instead of being sent within the intrenchments of City Point.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general hopes you will be able to surprise the enemy to-morrow morning, but if you should not, and should find his works strong and well manned, he does not expect you to attack him, but to confront and threaten him. This he presumes you understand, but thinks it best to mention it as a matter of precaution. Get your troops out of the way to-night of the road Warren will take, past Poplar Spring Church and the left of the fort at Clements' house. Have a perfect understanding with Warren about the road he will take, and send a staff officer with one of his over the road. Warren will move at 4 o'clock.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I have the honor to report that the opening is made through the parapet and abatis on the left of Fort Cummings.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864—11.25 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLCOX,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you move your command promptly at 3.30 in the morning, keeping your brigades well closed, and taking the road cut through the parapet to the right of Fort Cummings (by General Ferrero). General Warren will take the road on the left of Fort Cummings, and the general commanding wishes you to be careful and have it kept clear.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864—11.55 p. m.

Capt. JOHN C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: Am I to understand from the dispatch dated headquarters Ninth Army Corps, 11.25 p. m., just received, directing my command to move through the parapet on the right of Fort Cummings, the brigades being well closed up, that there is any change in the orders of the early part of the evening relative to McLaughlen's brigade?

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

Brigade commanders will hold their commands in readiness to march promptly at 3 a. m. to-morrow. Tattoo will be beaten at the usual time this evening, and after tattoo the officers will see that the men go to sleep in order that they may have a good night's rest. There will be no reveille in the morning. The troops will be kept well at hand, so that they can be aroused without unnecessary noise. The burning of rubbish or dry lumber, which has been collected in the camps, and which is usually burned before a march, is strictly forbidden. There will be no unnecessary fires whatever either to-night or to-morrow morning. The movement will be made as quickly as possible, so as not to excite the suspicion of the enemy. Brigade commanders will be held responsible that these directions are carried out.

By command of Brig. Gen. O. B. Willcox:

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the commanding general to say that the commanding officer of the detachment of armed dismounted men

you may have in your dismounted camp near City Point must be ordered to report to Brigadier-General Benham, commanding defenses at City Point, and that the men must, if necessary, take their places in the trenches.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
October 26, 1864.

This division will move from its present camps this afternoon in the following order, viz: Third Brigade, at 2 o'clock, by way of Temple's and in front of the Gurley house to the Weldon railroad in front of the Perkins house and there camp. The brigade in reaching the point designated will keep inside the cavalry pickets, outside the line of works. Second Brigade, at 3 o'clock, by the same route, and to camp in rear of the Third. First Brigade, at 4 o'clock, by the same route, and to camp in rear of or to the left of the Third Brigade, as will be hereafter designated. The present camps will be broken up, the wagons packed and sent to report to the division quartermaster. After leaving the present camps no calls will be sounded until further orders. The pickets of the First Brigade will be withdrawn at dark, those of the Second and Third Brigade in time to move with their brigades at 2 a. m. to-morrow.

The entire command will be provided with four days' rations and two days' forage from to-morrow morning. The ammunition train will move at 3 p. m. to the vicinity of the Yellow Tavern.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 26, 1864—12.25 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commanding, &c.:

I take leave to send you a copy of my orders for the movement to-morrow. If you will do me the favor to examine them and see if there is anything you object to therein, and will notify me, there will be time to change. If you can spare him, I should be very glad to have Colonel Comstock with me to-morrow.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

CONFIDENTIAL.] HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In Field, October 26, 1864.

General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

It is proposed that this army shall make a demonstration upon our right, in order, if possible, to turn the left of the enemy's intrenched and defended lines. It is believed, from information and reconnaissance, that his exterior defended line extends only a short distance to the east of the Darbytown road, certainly not farther than the Charles

City road. Therefore, it is supposed that if his troops are held in his intrenched line by a demonstration in his front, that another column marching free may turn his line, and at least force him to retire to his inner line or to attack us in the open field, which is desirable. The essay will be made on Thursday, the 27th instant, in manner following: General Terry will withdraw such troops as he can spare, leaving sufficient to hold his lines. There will be sent him nearly 2,000 additional troops to those on his field return. It is presumed that General Terry will thus have a mobile column of 8,500 effective infantry; to that will be added two four-gun batteries of artillery. With this force General Terry will feel along the enemy's lines to the right as far, at least, as the Charles City road, pushing the enemy's skirmish lines, but not attacking their works, except in cases hereafter mentioned. This movement will be made so as to feel the enemy as early as 7 a. m.

While this movement is in progress, concealing the march of another column, General Weitzel, having withdrawn as many men as can be spared from his lines, leaving Fort Burnham well garrisoned and sufficient force together with the men additional to his field return, say 2,500, and left men enough to hold his lines, will move with the remainder of his corps, say 7,500 effective infantry and two four-gun batteries of artillery, along the Kingsland road, across the New Market road, by the Drill-Room to the Darbytown (or Central) road; thence up that road to the neighborhood of the Baptist Church; then by some of the several large roads across to the Charles City road at a point near White's Tavern; then by a road near Mrs. Carter's house to the Williamsburg road in a direction to bring the head of the column near the enemy's outer line of works at Williamsburg road. It is assumed that this march will have flanked the enemy's defended intrenched line. It may be from information which will be given that the enemy's line does not extend beyond the Charles City road, and that it may be well to shorten the march and attempt to turn the line at that point; but that must depend on the state of things existing on arrival there. This march of Weitzel's column will bring him within a mile of the rear of General Terry's, after leaving our lines, in position to support him if necessary, so that General Terry can have no hesitation in provoking an attack from the enemy at any time. In case General Weitzel succeeds in turning the enemy's line they will either give battle, or, as is more probable, make for their second line. When General Weitzel is at the outer line, either at Williamsburg or Charles City road, he will be nearer the inner line than the enemy, either at New Market or Darby town road, and a vigorous push there may secure the second line before the enemy can reach it. There will be found artillery, with a small guard, in the redoubts on that line, and if we wait long enough it will be defended.

Colonel West, with his cavalry, will cover the flanks and head of General Weitzel's column, driving in the cavalry pickets and scouts, and driving before him Gary's cavalry, so managing his force as to conceal Weitzel's column and give the idea that his march is but a cavalry reconnaissance. Colonel West will report to General Weitzel after the columns join.

In case the enemy leaves his exterior line for his interior line General Terry will push him so as to delay him. If he endeavors to move to the left (our right), so as to meet the march of Weitzel, then General Terry will so far press the enemy as to require his presence in his own front. If we should have the good fortune to turn the second line, then, if in the judgment of the commander there is a reasonable prospect of possible success, an attempt may be made to pass between or assault the enemy's

line of redoubts to enter Richmond. The prize is large, and if we are that near the attempt to seize it will justify loss, specially if successful. If in Richmond, the orders given corps commanders about the 28th September last will govern. Everything in this movement, as, indeed, in most others, depends on celerity and promptitude. Therefore, the troops will be in light-marching order, with three days' rations in their haversacks, sixty rounds of ammunition in their boxes and on their persons, and blankets rolled round them. Fifty rounds per man more of ammunition will be in wagons to accompany the columns. All other trains, except ambulance trains, which will be as few as possible, will be sent to the south side of the James, and will begin to move in that direction at the same time their column moves in the other. The Tenth Corps and cavalry wagons will move by the Deep Bottom bridge and the Eighteenth Corps by the Varina bridge. Five days' rations and fifty rounds of extra ammunition will be put on the wagons, lightly loaded, so as to be ready to move at the word. A strong and vigilant provost guard will follow each column to prevent straggling. Line officers must be cautioned that straggling depends on them, and they will be held responsible for it. It may be that the enemy will attack our lines, supposing them undefended. That he can only do by abandoning his own. In that, not very probable but still possible, case General Terry, passing beyond the enemy's line, will attack his flank and rear with all vigor, being certain of support.

The enemy has on this side of the James about 7,000 good troops and about as many more conscripts and reserves. There need be, therefore, no nervousness about an attack from him. Let him come either in flank or rear; we want him anywhere but in his works. Nor need there be any about his receiving re-enforcements from the south side. Measures have been taken to keep him fully employed there, and if he comes here the Army of the Potomac will come with him. Let these facts be impressed, first, upon division and brigade commanders before the movement commences, and then, after the march begins, upon the regimental commanders and thence through the line. Let it be understood that this is to be a movement to try to meet the enemy outside of his works, and the sooner he comes out the better. The commanding general will be on the right of the column of General Terry at the beginning of the movement, and will keep corps commanders advised where his headquarters may be; will give such further directions as the exigency may call for. Corps commanders will keep the general advised of all occurrences by prompt report, carefully noting the hour of report. It need not be said to generals of such experience as Generals Terry and Weitzel that unfounded and exaggerated rumors are rife on the day of action, and, therefore, that the general expects all reports sent to him will have been thoroughly investigated, as he will place implicit reliance upon everything reported him as fact by the corps commanders except he knows the contrary.

The corps commanders will please send some of the most intelligent deserters and prisoners by the speediest means to the general, so that he may be early possessed of true stories, may compare their statements with his information, and govern himself accordingly.

Respectfully,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to General Weitzel, commanding Eighteenth Corps, and Colonel West, commanding Cavalry Division.)

OCTOBER 26, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff:

COLONEL: The signal officer at James River tower reports six light pieces, probably 10-pounders, in works to enemy's right of Cox's Ferry in addition to the heavy guns. Enemy building battery on new line of rifle-pits reported yesterday 60 degrees west from here (tower) on south side river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 313. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., October 26, 1864.*

1. The Two hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers is relieved from duty with the engineer department, and will report immediately to Brevet Major-General Terry, commanding Tenth Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 26, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: Have the honor to report that the enemy have shelled very slowly, and but for a short time at the Gap to-day. Returned their fire with the 4.5-inch gun alone. Moved the mortars and everything belonging to them to Fort Brady to-day. Unfortunately, broke the light sling cart in going across the canal; was compelled to transport the pieces in a Government wagon. Major Ludlow has at last acknowledged that the fire is very light during the day. Am glad of that. General Butler has sent two companies of infantry to support me at Fort Brady. Did not know the team with ammunition was here or I should have loaded it with ammunition for the 12-pounder and Sawyer guns. Will see that it is sent in the next teams. Have left a man at the Gap to look out for the magazine. Fort Brady is nearly completed. General Butler was here this p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
October 26, 1864.

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Reserve Artillery:

DEAR COLONEL: I have now an additional battery, making, with ten pieces expected from you, twenty pieces of artillery for the lines, and I shall be glad, if possible, to have your officer, the major you

spoke of sending, one competent to take general charge of the whole of it, as I shall be glad to have him do if fitted for the duties. It requires one, of course, who would understand the service behind the lines of the light as well as the heavy guns, who would keep the batteries well supplied with the proper ammunition and see that they are properly cared for, and who would see that the platforms that our men put up are properly arranged. As the pieces sent me are, I fear, all 3-inch rifles, it appears to me that it might be well if some of your guns, say three or four, had big mouths for canister.

Very truly, yours,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 26, 1864—7.50.

General A. H. TERRY:

General Butler directs that you inform the press correspondents that no information of the movement to-morrow shall be sent off before the day after to-morrow morning; not even a hint as to the prospect of moving. He will hold the correspondents strictly responsible that this order is obeyed.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 149. } *Before Richmond, Va., October 26, 1864.*

I. Hereafter the picket duty along the entire front of this division will be performed by brigades in regular routine, respectively, commencing this p. m. with the First Brigade, Col. A. C. Voris commanding. The tour of duty for each brigade will be as follows, viz: First Brigade, five days; Second Brigade, four days; Third Brigade, three days. The pickets will be relieved daily, and, as far as practicable, the detail for each day will be taken from one regiment.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 118. } *In the Field, Va., October 26, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. Maj. G. B. Dyer, Ninth Maine Volunteers, is hereby relieved from command of the redoubt on the front of the Third Brigade, Second Division, and will report for duty with his regiment. He will turn over his instructions to Lieut. Col. A. Alden, One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers.

III. Lieut. Col. A. Alden, One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the redoubt on the front of the Third Brigade, Second Division, and in the absence of the brigade to the command of the line now occupied by the Third Brigade.

* * * * * * *

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 26, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. ALDEN,
Commanding 169th New York Volunteers:

COLONEL: In the absence of the brigade or superior commanders, and in case of an attack, you will assume command of the men left in camps of various brigades of this division, and use them as occasion may require. If all remains quiet those of the Second Brigade will be subject to the orders of Lieut. Col. W. B. Coan, Forty-eighth New York Volunteers.

Respectfully, yours,

P. A. DAVIS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864. (Received 11 a. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The following has just been received:

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
OFFICE OF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 26, 1864. (Received 10.45 a. m.)

Lieutenant Chase, signal officer at Fort Harrison, reports that the enemy have removed all the tents from Fort Gilmer, but he is unable to discover any movement of troops.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.,

S. B. PARTRIDGE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. G. MARSTON,
Commanding First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In accordance with the instructions from General Butler, which have been transmitted to you, the troops of this corps now encamped in Cox's field, equipped and provisioned as directed by these instructions, will move to-morrow morning, at 5 o'clock precisely, along the route prescribed by the same instructions, and in the following order: First, General Marston's division; second, General Heckman's; third, Colonel Holman's division; Stitt's battery (A), First Pennsylvania Artillery, will follow General Marston's division, and Lee's Sixteenth New York Independent Battery will follow General Heckman's division. The ambulances belonging to each division will follow in the rear of their own division; all other vehicles will follow in rear of Colonel Holman's. The Second Brigade of the Third Division will report to General Heckman until further orders. Colonel Holman will command the First Brigade of the Third Division until further orders. All the reports, papers, &c., appertaining to the Third Division will come through Colonel Holman, as usual. The interval between General Marston and General Heckman, and General Heckman and Colonel Holman, on the march, will not be more than an eighth of a mile. The troops will be

marched at the rate of three miles in fifty minutes, resting the last ten minutes of each hour. Corps headquarters will be indicated to division commanders from time to time. Each division commander will send a staff officer to these headquarters to get the correct corps time.

By command of Brevet Major-General Weitzel:

D. D. WHEELER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

The troops of this command will be aroused for breakfast to-morrow morning at 4 o'clock, and be in line in readiness to march at precisely 5 o'clock. The men will move in light marching order, carrying sixty rounds of ammunition and three days' rations (cooked) on their person. The First Brigade will take the lead, followed by the Second, and that followed by the Third. All teams except the ambulance train will be in rear of the colored division. The corps of sharpshooters will report to Lieutenant-Colonel Raulston, commanding First Brigade. The column will move three miles every fifty minutes, resting ten minutes after each march. Brigade commanders will see that these requirements are complied with in their commands.

By command of Brigadier-General Marston:

GEORGE A. BRUCE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 26, 1864—1.50 p. m.

[General C. K. GRAHAM:]

MY DEAR GENERAL: To-morrow morning I make a movement to the right and Meade will make one on the left. I give you this information so that you may watch your lines closely. Keep me informed of all movements of the enemy, by courier or otherwise. Have your boats where they will do service in case the enemy try you on the left.

Yours, truly,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, October 26, 1864.

Col. SAMUEL P. SPEAR,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: The colonel commanding directs that you put your brigade in condition to move at a moment's notice, with three days' cooked rations in haversacks, one day's forage, and sixty rounds of ammunition per man.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. H. SCHENCK,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *October 27, 1864—9 p. m.*
(Received 2 a. m. 28th.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

I have just returned from the crossing of the Boydton plank road with Hatcher's Creek. Our line now extends from its former left to Armstrong's Mill, thence by the south bank of Hatcher's Creek to the point above named. No attack was made during the day further than to drive pickets and the cavalry inside the main works. Our casualties have been light, probably less than 200 killed, wounded, and missing. The same probably is true with the enemy. We captured, however, 7 loaded teams on their way from Stony Creek to the enemy, about a dozen beef cattle, a traveling forge, and 75 to 100 prisoners. On our right General Butler extended around well toward the Yorktown road without finding a point unguarded. I shall keep our troops out where they are until toward noon to-morrow, in hope of inviting an attack. This reconnaissance, which I had intended for more, points out to me what is to be done.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—8 p. m. (Sent 10.50 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

Soon after we left Major-General Hancock he made his preparations and was about assaulting the bridge over the Boydton plank road in his front, when he received a heavy attack on his right and rear, the enemy having crossed Hatcher's Run and advanced through the woods between his position and Crawford. Brigadier-General Egan, commanding the division, immediately desisted from his assault in his front, and, turning, met the advancing enemy; at the same time Mott, on the left, was assaulted, and Gregg in the rear. From this time till dark the fighting was sharp and severe, with varying results. At dark General Hancock maintained his position in the open ground, though he was obliged to yield the advanced line he held near the bridge to meet the direction of the attack on his right. Mott also was drawn into the plank road, but Gregg maintained his position steadily, covering the left rear. Hancock lost a number of prisoners in the skirmish line in the early part of the action, but took several hundred during the fight, probably more than he lost. At one time two pieces of his artillery were given up, but soon retaken, as soon as troops could be collected for the purpose. On the whole, I should judge from the reports of staff officers, in the absence of any other dispatches, that General Hancock made a glorious fight, and, although having to yield some ground, punished the enemy severely. In accordance with your instructions, he was directed to withdraw to-morrow morning, but since receiving the above intelligence I have notified him I could send Ayres' division to re-enforce him, and if the condition of his command and other circumstances justified it I wished him to hold on to-morrow, but if, in his judgment, it was more judicious to withdraw he could do so to-night. One difficulty in his remaining is the want of ammunition, his train not having accompanied him, and the continuous fighting having nearly exhausted the sixty rounds carried on the men's persons. The defile communicating with him will be so filled with troops going to him and ambulances returning that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to

supply him to-night. Crawford moved up the run after driving in their skirmishers and confronted the enemy on its bank, but owing to the very dense thicket through which he had to move and the slashed timber in the run, did not succeed in finding a practicable place to attack. He connected, however, with Griffin on this bank. Griffin, after minutely examining the enemy's position on this side, found him so strongly intrenched he deemed it useless to attempt to carry any part of the line. So soon as I hear from General Hancock I will advise you of what it is proposed to do to-morrow. I have no return of casualties, but have reason to believe Hancock's losses have been severe. On this side the medical director estimates the wounded of the Fifth and Ninth Corps at about 200.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—9 p. m. (Sent 11.15 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

I forward a dispatch,* just received from Major-General Hancock, by which you will see he has concluded to withdraw, in which opinion I fully concur, as I doubt the practicability of supplying him with ammunition and re-enforcing him in time to-morrow. Besides, were this practicable, it would be a simple matter for the enemy to move a part of their force over Hatcher's Run and attack my weakened right wing, my wings being separated by more than six miles, whereas they have less than two to move from one point to the other. After Hancock has recovered I will to-morrow leisurely withdraw to our intrenchments, and if the enemy is disposed to come out of his lines and attack on this side I will give him battle.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

General Hancock claims a decided success, having repulsed all the enemy's attacks and made many prisoners. He regrets the necessity of withdrawing, but places it on the difficulty of being in time re-enforced and supplied with ammunition.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 27, 1864—12 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch, with that from Hancock, just received. Now that the enemy have taken to attacking, I regret the necessity of withdrawing, but see the cogency of your reasoning. If ammunition could have been taken up on pack animals it might have enabled us after all to have gained the end we started out for. The enemy attacking rather indicates that he has been touched on a weak point. Do not change, however, the directions you have given.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Hancock to Humphreys, 9 p. m., p. 382.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserters from Eleventh Florida, Finegan's brigade, came into the lines of the First Division, Second Army Corps, last evening, about 12 o'clock. Up to that time no movement took place on Mahone's front. Neither the men nor company officers of the Eleventh Florida knew of our movement. A very unintelligent deserter from Twenty-seventh North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, came in about noon to-day; came in from the picket-line. Went out on picket last evening, at which time his brigade had not moved. Understood this morning about 11 o'clock that the brigade had moved to the right. Cannot say that any other brigades have moved. Heard that his brigade (Cooke's) had gone toward the South Side Railroad.

Respectfully,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Enemy's force in works on our front and left remains unchanged. Camps west of Weldon railroad apparently the same. Enemy is drilling in small squads in vicinity of railroad.

[A. K. CAROTHERS.]

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—9 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Camp consisting of about two brigades west of Weldon railroad and half a mile to the left of the lead-works partially broken up and troops moving southwest, taking no road visible from this point.

A. K. CAROTHERS,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—9.05 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

The enemy along this whole front are breaking camps and moving west. The largest column noticed was eight minutes in passing a point. There are apparently but very few men left in their works north from this station.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—10 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

All camps west of Weldon railroad and to the right of large fort broken up and troops moving west on road south of large fort; number about 3,000, including those of last report.

[A. K. CAROTHERS.]

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

About one hour ago a column of the enemy's infantry was noticed on Boydton plank road near fort, 15 degrees east of north, moving west; marched well closed and were fifteen minutes in passing a point. Another column of enemy's infantry just observed in rear of their works west from this station marching east; twenty minutes in passing a point.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—11.20 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

A column of infantry, number about 1,600, appeared in vicinity of lead-works, coming from the direction of Petersburg; disappeared moving west on road south of large fort; twenty-four ambulances preceded the column. There appears to be considerable confusion in enemy's camps on the extreme left visible from this point. No changes in our front.

[A. K. CAROTHERS.]

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

A column of enemy's infantry just passed open space north-northwest from this station, moving west on the Boydton plank road. The column was marching rapidly and was twenty minutes in passing a point.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
October 27, 1864—12 m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

About 1,500 infantry left this front east of Butterworth's house and moved west on Boydton plank road. They were six minutes passing a point east of lead-works.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 12 m. about 2,000 infantry appeared in vicinity of lead-works moving south as far as large fort and disappearing on road running west; at the same time about 100 infantry moved toward Petersburg from works in our immediate front.

[A. K. CAROTHERS.]

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

A column of the enemy's infantry just passed large fort near lead-works, moving west on Boydton plank road; column marched well closed, and were twenty-three minutes in passing a point.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 1 p. m. a column of infantry, numbering about 1,200, moved to our left, coming from the direction of Petersburg, and disappearing on road running west from large fort. At the same time a column of dust appeared rising from some road not visible from this point farther west, and continued twenty-three minutes.

A. K. CAROTHERS,
Sergeant.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 2 p. m. about 2,000 infantry moved westward on road south of large fort coming from works and woods in the vicinity of the fort. A train of sixteen ambulances and ten wagons followed the column.

A. K. CAROTHERS,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

Since last report six regiments of the enemy's infantry have passed large fort near the lead-works, moving west on Boydton plank road. The column last reported moved into enemy's works about 10 degrees south of west from this station. The six regiments above reported were followed by eleven ambulances and two pieces of artillery.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

Since last report one column of the enemy's infantry have passed large fort near lead-works, moving west on B[oydton] p[lank] r[oad]; twelve minutes in passing a point. About 150 pack-mules and led

horses and a large park of wagons, guarded by about one squadron of cavalry, are halted in open space north-northwest from this station; have been there three hours.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

FORT HOWARD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

No change in the enemy's line on this front observed since last report. All quiet in enemy's camps. No change observed in their picket-line.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 27, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Since report of 2.30 p. m. there has been small parties of infantry and cavalry scattered and ambulances and wagons passing to our left on road running west from large fort. Lines in our front as far left as lead-works remain unchanged. From lead-works south as far as can be seen the forces in works appear to be standing in small detachments as if about to move. Artillery horses have been brought in works on Weldon railroad.

A. K. CAROTHERS,
Sergeant.

NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE, *October 27, 1864.*

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Nothing of importance has been seen from this station this p. m. There have been no working parties engaged on any of the enemy's works to-day.

B. W. MARCY,
In Charge of Station.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
October 27, 1864.

Col. W. W. HAYT,
Commanding 189th New York Volunteers:

You will move your regiment out to-morrow early and report to Col. J. A. Mathews, commanding post near Old Court House, and camp on the ridge back of the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, on the ground formerly occupied by the Two hundredth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Hatcher's, October 27, 1864—7.30.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have forced the crossing after a little brisk firing. It was held by Young's brigade of cavalry. Firing has been heard in the direction of Gregg, but nothing from Parke. I am a little anxious about this last matter. The water in Hatcher's Run is about waist deep, except at the ford. The enemy had felled timber in it.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have sent this to Warren, urged him to push to the run, and get a part of his force over at least, and communicate with Hancock. What is the condition of affairs at your front now?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 10.40 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your dispatch received. Parke has confronted the enemy on the Hawks' road and is pushing them back to their works. I fear there is no chance of his getting into them. Warren is working his way to cross Hatcher's Run on Parke's left—slow work, having to make a road. It would be well for you to keep up a communication with Warren, to ascertain his progress. I will direct him to communicate with you. I will advise you of all that happens as it occurs.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—10.45 a. m. (Received about 12 m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

General Warren finds the enemy intrenched on a line running near to Armstrong's mill pond. He has not crossed any of his men yet, but will cross a division at once at Armstrong's Mill, and will follow with the rest of his command. Look out for your right flank and see that there is no enemy between you and Hatcher's Run.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

Warren will cross a division at once at Armstrong's Mill and the rest of his corps will follow. The enemy's line strong; extends apparently to Armstrong's mill pond. Look out for your right and see that there is no enemy between you and Hatcher's Run.

A. A. H[UMPHREYS],
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 27, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: My second division is past Dabney's Mill; the Third Division is following. There has been a good deal of skirmishing with dismounted cavalry this morning, which has delayed me. Gregg is now firing in the direction I am marching, which is said to be the best road to Hatcher's.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 27, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I am at the Burgess house, on Boydton plank. General Gregg has just come up. Part of the enemy's cavalry retired by Burgess' across Hatcher's Run. General Gregg captured a few wagons. I am about moving out on White Oak road. It is six miles from this point to railroad and about two to bridge.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—4.15 p. m. (Received 5.20.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The signal officers report the movement of the enemy's troops down the Boydton plank road. No doubt they are concentrating toward you. The commanding general directs me to say that your orders remain unchanged; that is, to withdraw to-morrow morning and move back. You must withdraw Crawford also at the same time and send him to General Warren. The road between here and your headquarters is still infested by small parties of the enemy's cavalry or guerrillas. Please have it heavily patrolled now and during the night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—5.15 p. m.

General HANCOCK:

Ayres is ordered to you, but will not get beyond Armstrong's Mill. Order him up if you think it is necessary, and use him as you wish. If you think that with Crawford and Ayres you can attack successfully, do so; if not, withdraw, as directed, or during the night, if you think it best.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

Let the commanding general know what the condition of things is and your opinion.

A. A. H.

Duplicated at 6.15 p. m. by one of General H.'s staff officers. General H. authorized to withdraw at any time he thought best, if he considered an attack in the morning with the forces named would not be successful.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Upon receiving your message by Major Biddle, the commanding general at once ordered General Ayres to move to your support, but it is so late that he will not be able to get beyond Armstrong's Mill, on the run, from which point he will report to you, and you can make such use of him as you see fit. If you think that with Crawford and Ayres joined to your own troops you can attack successfully, the commanding general desires you to do so. If not, you can withdraw as directed, and during the night if you consider it best. Since writing the above Captain Dresser has come in and reports that you attacked the bridge, but did not succeed. This, the commanding general thinks, may be the origin of the report brought by Major Biddle. Let the commanding general know what the condition of things is, and your opinion as to what is best to be done.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

If you wish Ayres to come up, will you send an orderly back with this escort, so that he can show General Ayres exactly where to find you.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—6.20 p. m. (Received 8.35 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your staff officer that left you about fifteen or twenty minutes after Captain Mason has just arrived and delivered your message. The commanding general directs me to say that you can withdraw at once if you deem it most judicious, or at any time during the night. Captain Jay

has taken you a dispatch saying that Ayres' division (two brigades of it, one is now with Crawford) was ordered to move to you, and that he is now at Armstrong's Mill, and will come up if you want him. The dispatch also said in substance that the commanding general desires to say that if you thought you could attack successfully in the morning, you could have Crawford and Ayres; but if not, to withdraw whenever you deemed it most judicious. He wished your opinion, as well as to know the condition of affairs with you; that he has now learnt from your staff officer. Ayres was ordered to Armstrong's Mill upon receiving your message by Major Biddle.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

If you withdraw to night, leave some force at Dabney's Mill to aid in withdrawing Crawford. Notify us of the time you intend to withdraw so that Crawford can receive orders.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—9 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: In answer to your dispatch I have to say that I have directed my command to return to the vicinity of the Gurley house. General Egan, with his division, is instructed to hold Dabney's Mill and communicate with General Crawford if possible, and arrange with him about withdrawing. I have not been able to find General Crawford since about 4 p. m.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch of 9 p. m. is received. The commanding general desires you to halt after crossing Hatcher's Run and replenish your ammunition. Will send you further orders there. General Warren will attend to drawing in General Crawford, and will see that General Egan is notified when he can withdraw.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
[*October 27, 1864.*]

[General HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: In reply to your dispatch, I have to say that if I had two fresh divisions and ammunition for my own command, I would attack to-morrow morning, but I consider the chances of these things being here at an early enough hour to be uncertain and the risk considerable. Of my own batteries, one has no ammunition, another only that in the limbers, and the third has lost all its officers and has only three men

per piece. I think the circumstances indicate falling back to be the proper course. I have a frail hold on the roads between me and the Fifth Corps, and if any accident should prevent my receiving the ammunition and troops at an early hour, the result would be a disaster, as the enemy have hemmed me in and pressed me closely. Barring accidents, I doubt the feasibility of issuing ammunition and getting up troops to-night, and will, therefore, withdraw rather than take the responsibility of disaster. At the same time I regret it, as I have resisted successfully so far.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

General Gregg says he is short of ammunition, and his fight lasted so late that his command is disorganized to an extent to make it impracticable to issue to them in the night.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864.

General N. A. MILES,
Avery House:

The commanding general desires that you will closely watch the enemy in your front, and acquaint him by telegraph with any movements that you may discover.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864.

General N. A. MILES,
Commanding Division, Second Corps, Avery House:

Should you discover that the enemy has greatly weakened his forces in your front and so report, or should the commanding general receive from other sources information leading to this conclusion, you may be required to collect all the available forces you can, say 2,000 men, and make an attempt to break through the enemy's line. The commanding general therefore desires that, with a view to such order, you have a suitable point of assemblage for your available forces selected and your plans so arranged that, should you receive instructions of the character indicated, you may be prepared to execute them with the least delay possible.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your two dispatches received. Movements of the enemy will be promptly reported as soon as discovered. The only change yet is the disappearance of a camp of about sixty tents on the right of the lead-works.

N. A. MILES,
Brigadier-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 551. } *October 27, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. Col. K. O. Broady, Sixty-first New York Volunteers, having reported for duty, will assume command of the First Brigade, he being the senior officer present.

3. Colonel MacDougall, One hundred and eleventh New York Volunteers, having reported for duty, will assume command of the Consolidated Brigade, he being the senior officer present in that brigade.

* * * * * * *

5. Col. G. N. Macy, Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, having been relieved from the command of the Consolidated Brigade, is placed in command of the rear line of works, viz, Battery No. 4, the new work near the Dunn house, and the new work near the Avery house.

By order of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
October 27, 1864.

Captain DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that the enemy are moving to our left along the picket-line in one rank, apparently in heavy marching order, and have been marching for about a half hour in front of Fort Morton.

I am, very respectfully,

K. O. BROADY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—7 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

General Parke sent in word about half an hour ago that just before Willcox's column passed the fort at Hawks' about 1,000 of the enemy's dismounted cavalry passed down the Duncan road. You have probably struck them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Hancock has crossed Hatcher's Run. Parke has met the enemy and is pushing them back to their works. I have no idea he will be able to carry them, and it is of importance you should get over Hatcher's Run with a part of your command at least and communicate with Hancock.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General MEADE:

I struck the Duncan road about one-third of a mile north of W. Armstrong's and found a road leading directly west. After going about one-quarter of a mile west of the Duncan road I struck the enemy, and he has just repulsed an attempt to advance by that route. I used Gregory's brigade in the demonstration. I have sent a party down the Duncan road to connect with Hancock. From the strength of the enemy's force I expect it will not be practicable for me to cross Hatcher's Run above Armstrong's Mill. I connect with Parke's skirmishers.

Respectfully,

G. K WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

General Hancock sends word that General Egan will halt at Dabney's Mill and endeavor to communicate with Crawford. He will probably reach Dabney's Mill at daylight. I have notified General H[ancock] that you will attend to Crawford's withdrawal and that you will see that General Egan is notified when he can withdraw.

A. A. H[UMPHREYS],
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—9.30 a. m.

General HANCOCK:

I have heard that you are across Hatcher's Run. I am about one mile north of Armstrong's Mill, on the Duncan road. The enemy repulsed just now an attempt of mine to go west. I expect I shall have to cross the run by way of Armstrong's Mill. I have sent down the Duncan road to connect with you by patrol.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General G. K. WARREN:

GENERAL: I am on the Boydton road about moving over to White Oak road. General Gregg has just joined me near the Burgess Tavern. I have had considerable skirmishing with Hampton's cavalry, which appears to have all, or nearly all, retired across the run. General Gregg captured a few wagons.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—3.30 a. m.

[General PARKE:]

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that it will be better for you to take the Vaughan road, and thence to Poplar Spring Church, instead of the wood road. It will be much better than going through the woods at night time. It is the same route you went before.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—1 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

I wish you would have your skirmishers on the left to press up against the enemy and commence firing. The woods south of Hatcher's Run are so dense we need the sound to guide us in moving up. If you see any chance of gaining their line, do it. Have this done (the firing) as soon as you can.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Received 11.30 p. m.)

General GRIFFIN:

General Meade has decided to have General Hancock withdraw to-night, as the distance around is too great for us to give mutual support. General Crawford will withdraw at daybreak. I wish you would use General Bartlett's brigade, or part of it, to strengthen your line and extend it to the left toward the run at earliest daylight, so as to prevent the enemy getting around your left flank and between you and the run while these withdrawals are going on; after this we shall all be in position on this side.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 27, 1864.

[Major-General WARREN:]

GENERAL: I attacked the enemy in the intrenchments where they come down to the creek. They have now re-enforced that point. The rebels who captured prisoners from Hancock are coming in and being captured, and our men recaptured. The rebels have got in on my left flank and Hancock's right. I have prisoners from Mahone.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 27, 1864—6.45 p. m.

[Major-General WARREN:]

GENERAL: I sent out scouts on my left. One, an intelligent officer, has just returned. He says he saw a considerable body of troops passing to my left on the road crossing Hatcher's Run above my position. It is half a mile. Unless this gap is closed I may expect hot work to-morrow, as a prisoner just received says Mahone's division was on the march at dark, crossed the run, and going toward Hancock. One prisoner has just been taken from MacRae's brigade (Heth). Same relieved MacRae at 3 o'clock to-day. I feel more apprehensive for my left and rear than my front.

Respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—10 p. m.

General CRAWFORD:

Generals Hancock and Gregg had a pretty heavy fight this evening and repulsed all the attacks, and took about 700 prisoners; but being out of ammunition, and his troops in such condition that he cannot issue any to-night, he is ordered to withdraw, and will be doing so during the night. He is directed to leave a force at the steam saw-mill till you withdraw. I think you had best begin to withdraw as soon as you can see in the morning, taking care to bring in all your pickets, and drive in the stragglers. You can withdraw down your side of the rear, or you can make a bridge and cross over in rear of Griffin's line of skirmishers, or go back by the way you came. In any case, inform General Hancock's force at the saw-mill of your having done it, and be sure that all your own men at that place are brought in. Let me know of the receipt of this, and keep me informed in the morning of your movements. When you get this side of the river if you cross near your present right form in two lines on Griffin's left if you get no other instructions.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., FIFTH CORPS,
On Weldon Railroad, October 27, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieut. Col. F. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

All quiet on my front and rear. No demonstration from enemy, and nothing of importance to report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. BAXTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 27, 1864—7.30 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general wishes you to push ahead more rapidly and get into position. The rear of Ferrero's division is still at the Clements house fort. It is probable that there is no chance left for surprising the enemy's works, but the troops should be in position as quickly as it is possible to get them. The pickets in front the intrenchments should be thrown forward to join those crossing the Duncan road as soon as the latter are established.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Watkins' House, October 27, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General MEADE:

I have just received your dispatch, with one from General Hancock. General Humphreys has gone on to Warren. General Willcox is up with the enemy's line, and is now engaged, skirmishing. He is extending to the left to connect with Warren, and, if he finds a weak spot, will attempt to carry the line. Potter is across the road to the north of the Hawks redoubt, and Ferrero occupies the interval between Willcox and Potter. Skirmishing still going on in front of Willcox. He is feeling their line.

Yours, respectfully,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

OCTOBER 27, 1864—11 a. m.

PARKE:

Dispose your troops so as to cover the roads by which the enemy can reach and attack you, connecting with Warren's right. If the enemy comes out of his works attack him. Keep a good lookout for him. Warren is sending a division across Hatcher's Run.

A. A. H[UMPHREYS],
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Watkins' House, October 27, 1864—5 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have a continuous line of pickets and skirmishers from General Warren's right to our old position, Potter's right connecting with the left of the line thrown out from the intrenched position. I have sent for the intrenching tools, and will have the line intrenched, unless otherwise directed.

Very respectfully,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—6.05 a. m.

Major LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

A column of rebel troops has been crossing the road for some time, moving to our left in through the brier swamp. Cutcheon's skirmishers are now exchanging shots.

Very respectfully, &c.,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864.

Maj. P. M. LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

MAJOR: The enemy's skirmishers made a dash on the center of my skirmish line, but were repulsed, and my line is re-established on the old ground. My loss was but three wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864.

Brigade commanders will see that as much slashing is done as possible in front of their works before night as nothing can be accomplished after dark. While the slashing parties are at work the men will be under arms in the pits. A large number of men are in the rear, getting water, &c. All the men must be kept with their respective regiments ready for any emergency.

By command of Brigadier-General Willcox:

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864.

Brigade commanders will see that their troops sleep with their accouterments on, and that one-third of the officers and men are kept on duty and on the alert during the night. The troops will stand to arms in the trenches fifteen minutes before daybreak in the morning, and remain under arms until half an hour after daylight, ready for any emergency. The slashing will be continued in the morning. Care will be taken so as not to draw the fire of the enemy.

By command of Brigadier-General Willcox:

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General POTTER:

GENERAL: The commanding general requests that you have your command under arms at dawn of day, so as to repel any attack the enemy might make at that hour.

Respectfully, yours,

P. M. LYDIG,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CLEMENTS' HOUSE, *October 27, 1864—9 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Aiken's House:

The movements at this end have not yet resulted in anything more than a little skirmishing and forcing the enemy back toward their lines. The Second Corps and the cavalry have forced the crossing of Hatcher's Run, and are moving west. The Ninth Corps confront the enemy in their works north of Hatcher's Run. The Fifth Corps is moving between the Second and Ninth Corps. How are you progressing on the right?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NEAR DARBYTOWN ROAD,
October 27, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Terry has advanced to Darby road, driving in the enemy's pickets. Weitzel's column was on Darby road at 8 o'clock, where it joins Drill-Room road, in time, and where he ought to be. All going on well.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Darbytown, October 27, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

We have driven in the pickets of the enemy, by Terry, as far as Charles City road. Weitzel has reached, at 1.40 p. m., the exterior lines on the Williamsburg road, and finds Field's division in his front. He is going to the right as far as Yorktown [York River] railroad to see where the enemy's right rests. Field's right rested this morning near the Darbytown road. He has extended, therefore, four miles. Shall I make a trial on this outstretched line? Casualties few as yet.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WARREN'S STATION, *October 27, 1864—5.40 p. m.*
(Received 5.50 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The result on the left has been to find the enemy as far as we have extended to the left. Our troops are now eight miles west of the Wel-

don railroad, from which point I have just returned. Your dispatch of 3.30 is only just received, too late to direct an attack. Hold on where you are for the present.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Near New Market Road, October 27, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

We have not been able to turn the enemy's left, although Weitzel has demonstrated to the left of the Williamsburg road. I have there ordered him back to the Charles City road; sent one division in the line between Darbytown and Charles City, and massed two divisions with cavalry to hold to White Oak Swamp. Terry holds from Darbytown to our intrenched lines on the New Market road. Have you any orders?

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

CITY POINT, *October 27, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I have no special orders further than to direct that your troops keep as near all they now hold as they can favorably to receiving an attack, if the enemy can be induced to do such a thing. You need not make any further advance, however, unless it be in following up a repulse of the enemy. The enemy is now so extended that he must be very weak in the middle. If it is possible to get a force together for the purpose I would try an attack in the morning south of Bake-House Creek.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
October 27, 1864. (Received 12 m.)

Major-General BUTLER,
At the Front:

A note just received from General Graham, stating that Lieutenant Day, stationed at Battery Marshall, reports that the enemy stationed in his front were quite busy during the night. He thought they were removing the artillery. Also, that he heard but one bugle call this morning and only three drum reveilles.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 27, 1864—9.10 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER,
At the Front:

Colonel Jourdan has been telegraphed to know about any firing on his line to-day, but no answer received yet. We have heard nothing of it here. Think you must have heard Dutch Gap. The Army of the Potomac has reached the Boydton road.

R. S. DAVIS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 27, 1864—10.05 p. m. (Received 10.30 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

There has been for the last twenty minutes, and still continues, a very heavy and continuous cannonading, as we suppose before the Army of the Potomac.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 27, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, with General Butler:

The heavy firing that I referred to in my last telegraph to the general occurred in front of the Second Corps.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

OCTOBER 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. RUFUS INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster, City Point:

I have just arrived from the front. Everything looks favorable. Our right rests on the Williamsburg road, about three miles and a half from Richmond. Please telegraph me the news from the Army of the Potomac.

Truly, yours,

G. S. DODGE,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

OFFICE OF CHIEF QUARTERMASTER,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
City Point, Va., October 27, 1864.

Col. GEORGE S. DODGE,
Chief Quartermaster, Army of the James:

The Army of the Potomac has not done much severe fighting to-day. Our lines on the left have been extended and now cover the Boydton road.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

OCTOBER 27, 1864—7 a. m.

[Captain CLUM:]

Two passenger-cars with passengers and three freight-cars toward Richmond. There were three trains toward Richmond last night; the first, at 4 a. m., was heavily loaded.

VAN VLECK,
Lieutenant.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 27, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 9.50 a. m.)

Captain CLUM,
Chief Signal Officer, with General Butler:
(General Terry's headquarters.)

A train of eight freight-cars (contents unknown) toward Petersburg; an extra train.

VAN VLECK,
Lieutenant.

OCTOBER 27, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Captain CLUM,
Chief Signal Officer, General Butler's Headquarters:
(At General Terry's headquarters.)

Quite rapid musketry firing in front of Battery No. 3.

AMSDEN,
Lieutenant.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—12 m.

Captain CLUM:

Three small regiments have just crossed the New Market road, going to our right. They came from the direction of the James River.

BRODIE.

[Indorsement.]

Forward to General Terry.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
October 27, 1864—4.40 p. m.

Captain CLUM,
Chief Signal Officer, General Butler's Headquarters:
(At General Terry's headquarters.)

Four freight-cars (contents unknown) and three passenger with passengers toward Richmond; regular train. All quiet on the enemy's lines during the day.

VAN VLECK,
Lieutenant.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 27, 1864. (Received 7.30 p. m.)

Colonel JOURDAN:

The commanding general desires to know what and where that firing was this p. m.

H. R. CLUM,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

FORT BURNHAM, *October 27, 1864.*

Capt. H. R. CLUM,
Chief Signal Officer, Department:

The firing commenced from the enemy's gun-boats and was taken up and continued by their mortar batteries in front and left flank for about half an hour, directing their fire upon this fort. I responded with my guns in Fort Burnham, and ceased as soon as the enemy stopped firing. As far as I have heard I have had but one man wounded. Enemy firing poor.

J. JOURDAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

OCTOBER 27, 1864—5.30 p. m.
(Received 8 p. m.)

Captain CLUM,
Chief Signal Officer, General Butler's Headquarters:
(Through station at General Terry's headquarters.)

A train of cars heavily loaded toward Petersburg.

VAN VLECK,
Lieutenant.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 27, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have been obedient to the 4.5-inch gun to-day, firing little and ceasing very soon after it opened. Two companies of colored troops were ordered here for support last night by Major-General Butler; were directed to report to me. Have encamped them just outside the work.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I have just received information that the enemy are driving in our cavalry pickets on the right.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 27, 1864—1.50 p. m.

[General TERRY:]

Send a couple brigades to support West and develop the movement of the enemy to find his intention. Look a little to the right on the New Market flank.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864.

General TURNER,
Department Headquarters:

The enemy have driven in our pickets on the Darbytown road and are moving down it in column. Please send a battery and brigade from Heckman's command down the Kingsland road to Jourdan.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Lieutenant SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

LIEUTENANT: Major Randlett, commanding picket-line of the right brigade, reports that the right of his line is about 250 yards from the Charles City road. The enemy's works extend to that road. The captain of the cavalry company, which is on my right, reports that he is on Charles City road, and that the enemy have a battery in the road. He does not state whether this battery is behind works or not. I have sent for more definite information. If the distance from the right of my skirmish line from the Charles City road is not greater than 250 yards, as reported by Major Randlett, I shall soon have my line extended to it, as I have already sent a regiment for that purpose. I have just received intelligence that the guns above referred to are behind hastily constructed works.

Very respectfully,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—2.48 p. m.

Lieutenant SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: Colonels Plaisted and Voris report that the enemy's line is quite strong and with considerable force behind them, as has already been reported to-day. It has been reported by an officer on the skirmish line that he saw re-enforcements coming in. This officer is the only one who makes this report. The sergeant of the cavalry company on my extreme right reports that sometime since he saw the Fifth Pennsylvania and Third New York Cavalry advancing slowly up the Charles City road, and that it was reported to him that the Eighteenth Corps was on their right. The sergeant estimates the time since he left the Charles City road as about one hour and a half.

Very respectfully,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Lieutenant SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have received additional information from another source that the enemy is moving troops to our right, indicating a continuous movement. The officer reporting this is on the left of my line.

Very respectfully,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Captain CARLETON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that on my right the enemy appears to have two lines of abatis between his detached pits and his main line. On the left and center is a heavy slashing and, I believe, abatis, though I could not make out clearly. My line of skirmishers, Twenty-fourth Massachusetts, is strong and pushing as closely as possible. The four pieces of artillery in the salient of the line in front of about your position enfilade my line and is like advancing against the curtain of a bastioned fort; still, we drove the rebels out of his pits, capturing five prisoners. Up to about noon the indications were that the enemy was [not] so strong as he is now. Since noon many more heads have appeared. The force has not diminished any, so far as we can judge, since noon. I have had a bright sergeant up a tree noting every indication. I have been on the skirmish line, or one of my staff, all the time. Your order to get information as to the movement of troops (Field's division) is committed to Captain Hawkins, acting assistant inspector-general; he will see it executed.

Respectfully,

H. M. PLAISTED,
Colonel Eleventh Maine, Commanding Brigade.

SIGNAL STATION, *October 27, 1864—4.10 p. m.*

General TERRY:

Captain Camp, commanding skirmishers, reports that he has seen rebel troops with knapsacks going from their right to their left at a double-quick.

HAWLEY,
General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General HAWLEY,
Commanding Third Division:

The general commanding directs me to say that he has received your dispatch stating that enemy is moving to your right. If you think they have stripped the works in front of you of troops, push in.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SIGNAL STATION, *October 27, 1864—5 p. m.*

General TERRY:

Colonel Wright, most excellent officer, riding along my whole line, is inclined to think the enemy reduced, but can really give no reasons or clear facts.

HAWLEY,
General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded.

General Hawley has orders to push in if the force is so far reduced as to give him a good chance of success.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, October 27, 1864—8 a. m.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

At this hour the head of my column has struck the Darbytown road at its intersection with the Drill-Room road. There is skirmishing going on in my front, which I suppose to be Spear's clearing out rebel scouts and pickets according to my instructions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, October 27. 1864—9.50 a. m.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

At this hour the head of my column has reached White's Tavern. Colonel West reports the enemy's line to extend across the Charles City road; the works on this road are reported formidable and heavily manned. It is further reported to me that General Terry's line does not come up to this road; I have sent a staff officer to ascertain his right. I suppose that, notwithstanding the fact that General Terry does not come to this road as ordered, you desire me to take the road past Mrs. Carter's to the Williamsburg road, and I shall move on that supposition, trying to keep communication with Terry's line through the cavalry. Please send me orders what you wish me now to do. I intend to move down the Charles City road to the road which goes to the Williamsburg road about three-quarters of a mile below here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

I have just arrived at the intersection of the Williamsburg and the old Fair Oaks battle-ground. You understand now that I am entirely lost from Terry. I have thus far encountered nothing but cavalry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

I have reached their outer line of breast-works on the Williamsburg road. General Marston reports Field's troops entered over it; they have some artillery. I have directed him to feel them and see if he can get in. In case he don't, shall I continue my march northward, and, if so, what shall I do if the enemy gets my communications?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

I have the honor to report to the general commanding, that, believing the enemy very weak on my front, I assaulted with two brigades; the onset was repulsed. I have sent Colonel Holman to make the demonstration on the York River Railroad. If he fails to find the enemy's left what shall I do?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 27, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

Colonel Holman reports that he finds the enemy with intrenchments on the York River road.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
White's Tavern, October 27, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

Marston's division is here; I expect the colored brigade sometime in the night, but Heckman, I fear, will not be able to get in until after dawn, and may have trouble. This march, in this very dark night and through such a country and over such roads, has had an awful effect on the organization of my troops. The events of to-day may be briefly summed up, that we marched to the Williamsburg road, according to instructions, about two hours later than I expected to get there. Believing the enemy's line there to be manned by dismounted cavalry, I considered it my duty to make an attack. I did this with two brigades, which certainly would have been sufficient had my supposition been correct; but they were met by a very heavy fire, and only about a third of each brigade returned. In the meantime, by your direction, I sent Holman to find the enemy's left, if possible, by the York River Railroad. He thought he found it, attacked and carried the enemy's works. He was wounded; so was Kiddoo—mortally, it is feared. Before this success was reported to me I had ordered him back, but it was so late in the day that this success would have been of no value. My troops have had a hard time of it, and will be very much worn out to-morrow morning. I think that 1,000 will cover the total loss in killed, wounded, and missing. I think I made a demonstration, however, as lively as possible under the circumstances. If it had been possible to have avoided two hours delay on the march, I think I would have gotten around the enemy's left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

P. S.—I will not be able to put Marston into position until morning; it is too dark.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
White's Tavern, Va., October 27, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel CHAMBERLAIN,
Commanding, &c.:

Report to me at this point, when you reach here, for orders.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
White's Tavern, Va., October 27, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General HECKMAN,
Commanding Second Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

I fear that you will have great difficulty in bringing in the trains and artillery to-night. Try your best to do it, if possible, by building fires, &c., along the road; if not possible, bivouac in a good defensible posi-

tion. Start in at early dawn in the morning, just as soon as you can see, recollecting that your communication with this position is much exposed. I have ordered Colonel Spear to report to you with his cavalry.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
White's Tavern, October 27, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Colonel SPEAR,
Commanding Second Brigade Cavalry:

Report to General Heckman for orders on your move to this point, as he will be delayed a long time, it may be until early dawn, by the darkness and the difficulty of moving wagons.

Very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS, *October 27, 1864.*

General GRAHAM:

What is the firing which we hear?

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH:

The firing is in front of the Second Corps and toward Petersburg.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM.

DARBYTOWN, *October 27, 1864—12.42 p. m.*

Brigadier-General GRAHAM:

Dispatch received. Feel out and find what the enemy are about. It is important to know. A reconnaissance in force will determine. Be careful. All well here.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEAR NEW MARKET ROAD, *October 27, 1864—6.15 p. m.*

Brigadier-General GRAHAM,
Commanding Bermuda Lines:

At 12.42 to-day I sent you a telegram in answer to one sent me by you that the enemy appeared to be leaving your front to make a reconnaissance in force, and see you have neither acknowledged the dispatch or told me what you have done or learned. Please answer.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HATCHER'S FARM, *October 27, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Army of the James:

On receiving your telegram, accompanied by Colonel Potter, I made a reconnaissance from Battery Marshall to the right of the picket-line. At the same time one of my staff officers made a reconnaissance to the Appomattox River. The relief picket was then thrown out by the road leading to Battery Drake, supported by the Twelfth New Hampshire. It was nearly dark when this movement was made, and Colonel Potter has not yet returned. The rebel picket-line appears to have been weakened. The pickets are not at all communicative, and our men report that there have been several trains to-day more than usual, the trains down empty and those up full.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HATCHER'S FARM, *October 27, 1864—8 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The telegram sent me at noon did not reach me until between 3 and 4 o'clock. At once I attended to its spirit, but night overtook me before a satisfactory result could be obtained. I returned at 7.30. Colonel Potter has not yet returned.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 27, 1864. (Received 10.30 p. m.)

Brigadier-General GRAHAM,
Old Headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps:

Has there been any action or firing on your line to-night?

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S FARM, *October 27, 1864.*

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no firing on this front, but very heavy firing on the front occupied by the Second Corps.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 28, 1864—9 a. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The enemy attacked our left (Hancock) last evening with great vigor. I cannot give the results yet, though the fight was sanguinary on both sides and resulted in a considerable number of captures. General Hancock thinks he captured more prisoners than he lost. I will try to give you full particulars during the day.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 28, 1864.*
(Received 6.20 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

The attack on General Hancock, now that a report is received, proves to be a decided success. He repulsed the enemy and remained in his position, holding possession of the field until midnight, when he commenced withdrawing. Orders had been given for the withdrawal of the Second Corps before the attack was made. We lost no prisoners, except the usual stragglers who are always picked up. Our captures for the day on the south side foot up 910. The rebel General Dearing is reported killed. General Meade in his report says:

I am induced to believe the success of the operation, which was most decided, was mainly due to the personal exertions of Major-General Hancock and the conspicuous gallantry of Brigadier-General Egan.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864. (Received 4.30 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The following dispatch, received during the night, is forwarded for your information. General Miles has been directed to send the prisoners mentioned to City Point.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS,
Avery House, October 28, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I sent 100 men to the right of the Crater. They took a small work, with one gun in it, but before they could be supported they were driven out again by a superior force. Every effort was made to support them promptly, but a regiment of the enemy's infantry was in a work on their left and attacked immediately. The following-named persons were taken: Col. Randolph Harrison, Lieut. Col. Peyton Wise, and Second Lieutenant Cox, of Forty-sixth Virginia, and Lieutenant Ryland, Thirty-fourth Virginia; eight men of Thirty-fourth Virginia, one of Forty-sixth Virginia, and four of Twenty-sixth South Carolina; all of B. R. Johnson's division, R. H. Anderson's corps. My loss was light. Enemy's chevaux-de-frise had to be cut before it could be crossed.

N. A. MILES,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, *October 28, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

From your dispatch of last night it seems the enemy crossed Hatcher's Run below Hancock's position. Where was Crawford during this time? If he had followed your repeated instructions to Warren this could not have happened. Even after Hancock was attacked Crawford must have been in a position where, by boldly pushing up, he

could have annihilated all of the enemy south of the run. There may be an explanation for all this, or I may misunderstand what did occur. Before telegraphing to Washington the particulars of yesterday's operations I would like a partial report.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch in relation to General Crawford's movements is received. The inquiry you make is quite natural, but I judge, from all I can learn, the difficulty of Crawford reaching the scene of action in time was twofold—first, the character of the country represented as worse than the Wilderness, and, secondly, the fact that Crawford was at that time engaged with the enemy, and trying to get across the run to take the line confronting Griffin in reverse. The distance between Hancock and Crawford was also owing to a bend in the stream greater than was at first supposed, no connection between the two having been made, as was erroneously reported. You may, perhaps, remember hearing just before we left Hancock some sharp and continued musketry firing; this was Crawford. Again, when I spoke of the enemy's crossing the run on Hancock's right I referred to their coming through that piece of woods which, if you remember, we stopped on the edge of for a little while before we left. Indeed, I am now satisfied if we had continued on the road we started on much longer we should have struck the enemy. When I first heard of the attack on Hancock, General Warren had just returned from Crawford, and so well satisfied were we both that Crawford could not get to him in time that I immediately started Ayres to move up the road from Armstrong's Mill, but it was then so late that it was dark by the time Ayres had crossed the run at Armstrong's, and I accordingly halted him to hear from Hancock. I am of the opinion that Crawford's position and movements were of essential value to Hancock by keeping in check a considerable force of the enemy who would otherwise have not only joined in the attack but cut off the road communicating with him. This explanation will, I trust, relieve your mind of any impression unfavorable to General Crawford, who, I really believe, was disposed to do all in his power. There is no doubt now it would have been better if Crawford had been sent at once to Hancock by the road we took, but in ignorance of the distance either that Hancock would have to go or had gone in sending Crawford to Hancock's support, I directed he should move up the bank of the stream, with the hope that in co-operation with Griffin we might dislodge the enemy from the line of works he occupied resting on the run. The character of the country caused delay in Crawford's progress and his subsequently striking the enemy, for he found him on the right bank of the stream and had to drive his skirmishers across. When he had done so he found the passage of the stream obstructed by felled timber and the enemy posted on the other side; he then made efforts to find a practicable place for assaulting, and was engaged in this and connecting with Griffin on the other side below the enemy's line when Hancock was attacked. The special report required will be made at once; do you wish it in writing or by telegraph?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *October 28, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

All I want is about the general result of the operations of yesterday by telegraph, so that I can send a dispatch to Washington.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Hancock's command and Crawford's division had recrossed Hatcher's Run by 7 a. m. I have directed Major-Generals Warren and Parke to remain in position sufficiently long to send all impediments to the rear and collect stragglers, and then to withdraw leisurely to their former positions in our intrenched lines. I find my dispatch of yesterday evening requires some modification. Major-General Hancock did not substantially yield any ground; he held the Boydton plank road till midnight. He is also unaware of the loss of any prisoners, except the usual stragglers scattered in the woods whom it was impossible to collect. He was compelled for want of transportation to leave a number of his most severely wounded. These were carefully collected and placed in the houses on the field and surgeons with supplies left with them. The whole number of prisoners reported to the provost-marshal-general up to this time is 689; these are exclusive of 200 turned over by the Second Corps to the cavalry not yet brought in, and 21 sent to City Point by Brigadier-General Miles. Prisoners report the death of Major-General Dearing. I am induced to believe the success of the operation, which was most decided, was mainly due to the personal exertions of Major-General Hancock and the conspicuous gallantry of Brigadier-General Egan.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS:

In accordance with the orders of the lieutenant-general commanding, such portions of this army not required to hold the intrenched lines moved yesterday morning before daylight with the intention of extending these lines, if practicable, to the South Side Railroad. The forces moved in three columns, the Ninth Corps on the road to Hawks', the Second Corps down the Vaughan road to Hatcher's Run, and the Fifth Corps on a line intermediate between the other two, parts of which had to be opened. Major-General Parke was instructed to move on the presumed position of the enemy's works, and if practicable to carry them. In case of his inability to do this (and he was directed not to attack if the works were found strong and well manned) he was to threaten and confront the enemy, and Major-General Warren, who was to support Parke in the first operation, was instructed, in case Parke did not attack, to cross Hatcher's Run and endeavor to get possession of the bridge by which the Boydton plank road crosses that stream. Major-General Hancock, with parts of the Second Corps and Gregg's division of cavalry, was ordered to cross Hatcher's Run by the Vaughan

road, then to turn to the southward and endeavor to seize the bridge where the Claiborne road crosses it. This project was based upon information which led to the belief that the enemy's line only extended to the crossing of Hatcher's Run by the Boydton plank road, and that it was not completed this far and was weakly manned. The movement was promptly made as directed, but, instead of finding the enemy's line as expected, it was found to extend over the run nearly to Armstrong's Mill, was fully completed, and very strongly fortified by slashings and abatis. The consequence was that Major-General Parke, after driving in the enemy's skirmishers, did not attempt to attack, but Major-General Warren, on developing the enemy's position, made an unsuccessful effort, with Gregory's brigade of Griffin's division, to penetrate the line.

Finding this condition of affairs, and Hancock having effected the passage of the run and moved as ordered, I directed Major-General Warren to cross Crawford's division at Armstrong's Mill, with instructions to support Hancock, but instead of following the Second Corps, I directed Crawford should move up the right bank of the run and endeavor to recross and assault the enemy's line in rear, while Griffin assaulted in front. This, it was hoped, would enable Warren to cross near Boydton plank road and secure the connection between the Second and Ninth Corps. About this time, 11.30 a. m., in company with the lieutenant-general commanding, I proceeded to join Major-General Hancock's column, crossing the run at Armstrong's Mill. Major-General Hancock was overtaken at Burgess' Tavern on the Boydton plank road, some four miles from Armstrong's Mill. He had driven the enemy's cavalry from the run and up to the Boydton plank road bridge, capturing some prisoners, wagons, cattle, and tents. The enemy, however, disputed his passage of the bridge and had opened batteries on him from the opposite side, besides threatening his left flank with artillery.

It was very evident soon after joining Hancock, that unless the enemy was driven from the left bank of the run, where the Boydton road crossed, that our lines could not be advanced sufficiently to make a connection with the present intrenched line. Major-General Hancock was accordingly authorized to make the attempt to carry the bridge, was advised of Crawford's movement and the object of it, and informed by the lieutenant-general commanding that if these operations were not successfully executed during the day he would be withdrawn on the following day. Having given these orders, in company with the lieutenant-general commanding, I proceeded to Armstrong's Mill, from which point the lieutenant-general returned to City Point. Soon after my return Major-General Warren reported that General Crawford, after great exertions, owing to the dense thicket he had to operate in, had moved up the right bank of the run, past the terminus of the enemy's line, had driven across the run the enemy's skirmishers, and was endeavoring to find a practicable place to cross and assault, but found the run in rear of the enemy's line fortified by the felling of timber, the opposite bank being held in force.

Griffin, after feeling and examining the whole line in his front, found it so strong as to preclude the expectation of carrying it by assault. About this time, 5 p. m., whilst Major-General Hancock was just about to attempt carrying the bridge in his front, the enemy detached from the woods to his right and rear and attacked him vigorously, at the same time advancing on his left and attacking Gregg in the rear. Notwithstanding the several attacks and the necessary change of front of several commands, Major-General Hancock repulsed all the enemy's

efforts, inflicting on him severe losses and firmly maintaining his ground till dark, capturing over 700 prisoners and several colors, and suffering no losses beyond killed and wounded, of whom he had quite a number. The fight was in an open field, and is represented to have been for the time very sharp and severe, the enemy being baffled by Major-General Hancock in all his attempts to flank or turn his position. This decided success is due to the personal exertions of General Hancock and in a great measure to the conspicuous gallantry of Brigadier-General Egan, temporarily commanding a division in the Second Corps. The lateness of the hour at which this attack was made and at which the information reached me, prevented General Crawford being sent to re-enforce General Hancock; indeed, the distance and difficulties of moving through the dense thicket, together with the fact that Crawford was engaged with the enemy, induced me to put Ayres' division in motion, but it was dark before he could be crossed over the run at Armstrong's Mill.

The position of the enemy being seen, holding, as it were, a ridge formed by his intrenched line in front of the run and the run in rear, and forcing a separation of my flanks of over six miles when he had only two miles to move, deterred me from keeping Hancock in position and re-enforcing him with another corps, as it would leave only one corps to meet the attack of the enemy if he should choose to move over. I therefore directed the withdrawal of Hancock and Crawford, who both recrossed the run by 7 a. m. to-day. About 12 m., having withdrawn all the impediments of the army, the several corps were, in accordance with the lieutenant-general's orders, withdrawn and are now moving into their former positions in the intrenched lines. In addition to the 700 prisoners taken by the Second Corps, there were nearly 200 taken by Crawford. No prisoners are reported as lost by us, except the stragglers, whom it is always difficult to collect when withdrawing. No return of the casualties has yet been made. In the Second Corps the losses, owing to the severe fighting, are believed to be heavy. I regret to report that, owing to the want of transportation and the character of the cases, some of the most severely wounded were left in charge of surgeons in some houses on the field.

Respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

YELLOW TAVERN, *October 28, 1864—11.20 a. m.*

General HUMPHREYS:

There are at this point 530 prisoners of war, sent in from Second Corps, fully representing Mahone's, Cooke's, and MacRae's brigades. There are about twenty cavalry from Young's, Dearing's, Dunovant's, and Davis' brigades. These all were taken by the Second Corps. There are also at this point 148 prisoners of war, sent in by the Fifth Army Corps, taken last night; all from Mahone's old brigade, save a very few stragglers from Cooke's brigade. No prisoners taken from any other brigade than the above. There are at general headquarters eleven prisoners of war and four deserters, all from Cooke's and Mahone's (old) brigades. Total number of prisoners of war, 689.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 28, 1864—7 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Tents appear at all points on enemy's lines where they were seen last evening, but in less numbers. Squads of infantry moving left from our immediate front show that they had been brought there from other points of their lines farther to our left, where we were threatening their lines in our immediate front. They show but small force in works. All quiet.

A. K. C[AROTHERS].

OCTOBER 28, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

About 7 o'clock a regiment of infantry moved in sight from the east into the clearing west of station, halted a short time, and passed on out of view. They were behind the first line of works. Eight o'clock, a skirmish line has moved back behind the first line of works, while a heavy column, about 1,500, has moved in the same direction east, back of the rear line of works. Just now a column of about the same size has moved back to the west again.

INGERSON,
Sergeant.

NEAR GIBBON'S HOUSE, *October 28, 1864—9 a. m.*

Major FISHER:

There is nothing new in front of this station this a. m. No change is seen in any of the enemy's works.

B. W. MARCY,
In Charge.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 28, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

A column of enemy's infantry just passed fort about west from this station, moving west on Boydton plank road. Column marched well closed and was fourteen minutes in passing a point.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 28, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

About 250 infantry have just moved up in line in works west from station, coming from points farther to the left. About 100 men are in line near lead-works; also a regiment in line in works half a mile south of lead-works, apparently about to move.

A. K. C[AROTHERS].

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 28, 1864—10 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Infantry, 100, reported in line near lead-works were joined by about 200 additional infantry from points to the right of lead-works, all moving to the right as far as works northwest from station, where they have halted and stacked arms. Regiment reported in line half a mile south of lead-works has disappeared in woods west of railroad, moving northwest; numbered 350.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION, *October 28, 1864.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A column of infantry moved westward at 10.40 a. m. They were thirteen minutes in passing the fort near the Boisseau property.

[SLEEPER,
Sergeant.]

OCTOBER 28, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

At 11 o'clock a small body of troops, about 500, passed to our right. They were seen moving behind the first line of breast-works in clearing, to left of station. In same clearing artillery horses are harnessed to a caisson.

INGERSON,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 28, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A column of infantry is going up the Boydton plank road. They were fifteen minutes in passing the fort near the toll-gate. They were going toward Petersburg.

[SLEEPER,
Sergeant.]

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 28, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

A column of infantry, numbering about 2,000, has come in on road running west from large fort and is halted in woods to the right of fort. Another column has just appeared, coming in on same road.

CAROTHERS,
Sergeant.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 28, 1864—1 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Column, numbering 2,000, reported halted in works to the right of large fort and other column reported as appearing on same road, in all about 3,500, are moving to our right in direction of Petersburg and are now passing lead-works.

A. K. C[AROTHERS].

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 28, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

A column of enemy's infantry just passed open space north-northwest from this station, moving in direction of Petersburg, on Boydton plank road. The column was followed by four wagons.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: In addition to the movements already reported, at 3 p. m. a column of about 1,800 infantry came toward Petersburg on the Boydton plank road and halted in the woods west of the Weldon railroad, and remained there until night. At 3.30 p. m. 600 more came on the same road and moved on toward Petersburg, disappearing behind the woods near the lead-works. At 5.30 about 1,000 came up the Boydton plank road and disappeared in the vicinity of the fort near the Weldon railroad. At 4 p. m. about 1,000 men went into the intrenchments east of Butterworth's house. A strict watch was kept upon the roads leading into the city from the west and no troops were seen entering it, so I would conclude all the troops that came up the Boydton plank road went into the works in our front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 113. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., October 28, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Special Orders, No. 112,* from these headquarters are hereby revoked.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See p. 357.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
October 28, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that the One hundred and eighty-ninth New York Volunteers reported to these headquarters last evening, Col. W. W. Hayt, commanding; nine companies, about 800 men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
October 28, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Armies of the United States:

I have the honor to report that the First Rhode Island Battery,* Capt. Crawford Allen, jr., with about 120 men and six 3-inch rifled pieces, reported to these headquarters. They are from the Twenty-second Army Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS 205TH PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS,
Old Court-House, Va., October 28, 1864.

Capt. C. CLAPP,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., General Benham's Brigade, City Point, Va.:

CAPTAIN: I regret to inform you of the loss of three of Lieutenant Capron's cavalry by capture on our picket-line last night. One of the number made his escape and is now with his command at City Point. My field officer of the day will report more fully to-morrow. Major Tucker, commanding cavalry depot, has sent to me altogether 330 dismounted cavalry and 58 mounted, who are now encamped temporarily in rear of our lines. What disposition does the general wish me to make of these men? Lieutenant Barre, who reports these men to me from Major Tucker, is of opinion that they are to remain here for any emergency that may arise. The work of revetment along our line is progressing rapidly, but I am entirely out of timber for this purpose. Can I have ten teams early in the morning?

I have the honor to be, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. MATHEWS,
Colonel 205th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Commanding Post.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
October 28, 1864—evening.

Col. J. A. MATHEWS,
Commanding Post:

In reply to your communication of this date the general commanding directs me to say that the cavalrymen were sent to you by his order, and, as you suppose, they will be held in readiness for any emergency, encamping in the woods in your rear. There are to be some rifle-pits

* Battery H, First Rhode Island.

thrown up to-morrow in front of the large redoubt which some of these men, who are armed with sixteen-shooter carbines, will hold. The ten teams will be ordered to report to you early in the morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
October 28, 1864.

Col. J. A. MATHEWS, *Commanding at Old Court-House:*

The general commanding directs me to say that he learns that there is a cavalry picket of some 150 men on the other side of Bailey's Creek. He deems them unnecessary where they are, and if you agree with him he wishes you would send word to Major Tucker, commanding cavalry depot, Second Division, to withdraw them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864.

The following dispositions of troops is ordered:

1. Brigadier-General Egan, commanding Second Division, will place one of his brigades in the ravine behind the line between Forts Stedman and McGilvery, one behind Fort Morton, and one in rear of the Avery house.

2. Major-General Mott, commanding Third Division, will place one brigade near the Chieves house as a support to the line near the plank road, and one in rear of Fort Hays. From the remaining brigade he will furnish garrisons for Forts Bross, Patrick Kelly, Blaisdell, and Stevenson. The chief of artillery will place a section in each of Forts Bross, Kelly, and Blaisdell, and four guns in Fort Stevenson. The camps of reserve brigades must in all cases be entirely screened from the view of the enemy, that they may hereafter be broken up without discovery. Brigadier-General Miles will afford such assistance to General Egan as may be necessary in locating the brigades of the Second Division. This order to go into effect to-morrow night. Preliminary arrangements can be made during the day to-morrow.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864.

Gen. W. S. HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

The trains, excepting supply train and the ambulances, artillery horses, caissons, &c., ordered within the defenses of City Point before the recent movement, have been directed to return to the positions from which they were sent to the rear.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Warren and Parke.)

AVERY'S HOUSE, *October 28, 1864.*

General S. WILLIAMS:

Besides the prisoners reported last night I captured eight men of Johnson's division from their picket-line opposite Fort Sedgwick. An officer (lieutenant) deserted from Forty-sixth Virginia. He reports Major-General Dearing killed yesterday. I have sent all these prisoners, twenty-one, to City Point.

N. A. MILES,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 31. } HDQRS. 4TH BRIG., 1ST DIV., 2D A. C., *October 28, 1864.*

The colonel commanding the brigade takes pleasure in congratulating the One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers for the gallantry displayed in the assault and capture of the enemy's fort on the evening of October 27, 1864. Capt. Jerry Brown, Lieutenants Sprankle, Gibb, and Benner, deserve special mention for their bravery and skill in leading the charge. He deeply regrets the loss of Capt. H. D. Price, One hundred and sixteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general, Fourth Brigade, who fell nobly sustaining the proud name he had won by his valor in the field, and sympathizes with the brave men who were wounded.

By order of Colonel Mulholland:

J. WENDEL MUFFLY,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you immediately forward a regiment, not less than 140 in strength, to guard the subsistence depot at Cedar Level Station. The regiment will remain there permanently, or until relieved in orders from these headquarters. Please have an officer directed to see to the locating of the regiment at the above station, and report the regiment and its strength to these headquarters.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864—7.15 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general wishes you to send Ayres' division as soon as you can to fill up the vacant space between Parke's right and the fort at the Clements house.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Peebles' House, October 28, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

It is reported by signal officer that the enemy are moving toward our right past the Pegram house front. The commanding general thinks you had better commence the movement of return at once to the intrenchments, if you have not already done so, and less leisurely than the commanding general originally intended.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864—10 a. m.

General EGAN:

You can begin to withdraw toward the Vaughan road at once. Send word to General Mott to commence to withdraw also along the Vaughan road to our old lines. Major Walsh's cavalry will cover your withdrawal on the Vaughan road, and you are to follow General Mott. You will also meet a brigade of General Gregg's cavalry coming down to cover the withdrawal.

Respectfully, yours, &c.,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864—10.30 a. m.

General PARKE:

I am ready now to withdraw General Griffin's division as soon as you are ready to withdraw General Willcox's.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864—8.50 a. m.

General AYRES:

You will receive your orders from General Parke, moving to his assistance at any point he may require and be withdrawn by him.

A. A. H[UMPHREYS],
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 28, 1864—5.30 a. m.

[Major-General WARREN:]

GENERAL: I am across with my whole command, and am about destroying my bridge. I have 112 prisoners—two officers—with me. I am in two lines on Griffin's left, with one brigade massed on the center.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Armstrong's House, October 28, 1864—7 a. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD, *Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that as soon as you have breakfasted you send all your headquarters vehicles, pack-mules, &c., back to your old camp.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 28, 1864—7.20 a. m.

[Major-General WARREN:]

GENERAL: The Seventh Wisconsin has come in. It was the last of my picket-line. It brings eighty-two prisoners, one an officer; also four horses.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864—10 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

You will at once begin to withdraw your division, moving left in front, and keeping well closed up. You will mass your division near Fort Cummings (the place where we cross Parke's line). As soon as you begin to move commence to withdraw your picket-line, beginning on the left and closing it in to the right. Let Colonel Osborn report to me when it is all gone. I shall be at the cross-roads, where we go into the cut we made through the woods.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864—10 a. m.

Major WALSH:

Withdraw your cavalry after General Egan gets clear of the road. He is going to move from General Meade's headquarters over to the Vaughan road, and follow General Mott's division.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864—6.30 a. m.

Major-General PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

Let your provost-guard keep Hancock's men. If they have arms and are numerous enough to be of any use put them with your men, Hancock knocked the enemy. He has recrossed Hatcher's Run and is on the Vaughan road. Gregg has recrossed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864—6.45 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The major-general commanding directs that you be prepared to withdraw during the morning to the intrenchments, and that you clear the road at once of all wheels. You will be notified from these headquarters, or by General Warren, when to withdraw, as you will withdraw simultaneously with Warren. Should you not want your artillery it can precede you, but do not send it off until you have reported to these headquarters whether you do or do not want it and receive an intimation to withdraw it from here.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864—7.15 a. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

General Warren will send Ayres' division to fill up vacant space on your right to the front at Clements' house. Will you see that all the roads leading to intrenchment are cleared of wheels, that which Warren used and the intermediate road between that and you.

A. A. H[UMPHREYS].

The battery at Watkins' house may take the lead when you withdraw.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864—7.25 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have received yours of 6.45 a. m. I have two batteries up, one with Potter at Hawks', one in rear of Ferrero at Watkins' house. The latter, I think, had better be done before any movement begins. I will start all the wheels to the rear.

Yours, &c.,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the commanding general to say that the commanding officer of the detachment of armed dismounted men you may have at your dismounted camp near City Point must be ordered to report to Brigadier-General Benham, commanding defenses at City Point, and that these men must, if necessary, take their places in the trenches.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to General Benham.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
Armstrong's Mill, October 28, 1864—5.50 a. m.

General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general directs that you look out for our rear on the Vaughan and other roads below Armstrong's Mill. General Parke and General Warren are still in position they were in yesterday, from Armstrong's Mill and vicinity toward our line of intrenchments. You will not move in until further orders.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 28, 1864—2 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG:

Warren's and Parke's troops are within the line of intrenchments. You can now fall back and take up your old position, picketing and patrolling as before.

A. A. H[UMPHREYS],
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October 28, 1864.*
(Received 10.10 a. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The surgeon-general complains that his two hospital transports, the Atlantic and Baltic, have been seized by your order. This proceeding is irregular, and you will please abstain from giving such orders. If there be a necessity for your having the transports, application should be made to the proper bureau, so that adequate provision may be made. This can be done in as brief time as an irregular seizure without authority.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
October 28, 1864.

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I am aware that I sometimes do things irregularly when the exigency requires it, but in the matter of the Atlantic and Baltic I plead not guilty in intention. I made application through General Grant some time since for those boats, because competent sea-boats, to take the sick prisoners along the coast from Savannah. I understood I was to have them when we were ready to go down, and put them in my list in making up the necessary transportation. I knew they were hospital boats, and certainly should never have used them save for hospital purpose, such as this is, to wit, carry sick soldiers, save in case of attack or other emergency. I had not intended to do, and did not suppose I had done, anything irregular in this matter. Shall I discharge

the boats? They are the best adapted to that service in point of safety. I have others that can with safety run to New York. I have none that can be relied on in November on the coast in all weather.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October 28, 1864—11.10 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Headquarters:

Your list of brevets recommended by you reached me this morning. I have ordered them to be made immediately and transmitted to you. General Wild has been relieved from recruiting service and ordered to report to you. The recruiting office at New Berne has also been discontinued and the officer ordered to report to you.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 28, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

You may withdraw your troops to their former position. The same thing is being done on the left.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

ATLEE'S FARM,
Near Darby Road, October 28, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Dispatch directing withdrawal of troops received. Orders have been issued.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *October 28, 1864—2.05 p. m.*

Colonel WEBSTER,
Quartermaster:

I am instructed by the Secretary of War to inquire into the seizure of the hospital transports Atlantic and Baltic from their appropriate duties. These vessels have been assigned to duty as transports for sick and wounded under the direction of the surgeon-general, and should not be withdrawn from this service without his consent or orders from this office. You will immediately restore them to the medical officers, if withdrawn from their control, and report all the facts to this office.

By order of the Secretary of War:

M. C. MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General.

(Forwarded to General Butler.)

OCTOBER 28, 1864.

Colonel WEBSTER,
Chief Quartermaster:

Release the boats, of course, as ordered, and report the facts as follows: The boats were taken as the only safe boats in the service fit to convey sick and wounded soldiers of the United States who have been languishing in prisons for many months. They are the only boats fit for that purpose as hospital boats on the coast in the November storms. The soldiers of the United States sick and wounded in the comfortable hospitals of Fortress Monroe, General Butler thought, could wait there before they were transported to New York and the surgeons in charge go with [them] to that city on a pleasure trip better than could our soldiers, sick, emaciated, and wounded, stay in a filthy Southern prison, and die for want of this transportation, which is not, in fact, employed more than half of the time. If our prisoners die in foreign prisons for want of this transportation their friends and countrymen must hold the Surgeon-General responsible, and not General Butler, for the inhumanity. There are plenty of boats that can run to New York with safety in these winds. Report these facts and all others you may know, and the whole matter will be judged of by the Department.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

OCTOBER 28, 1864.

Capt. H. R. CLUM,
Chief Signal Officer, Butler's Headquarters:

Five passenger cars with passengers toward Richmond—regular train—last night; also a train toward Petersburg; contents unknown; extra train.

J. VAN VLECK,
Lieutenant, &c.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 28, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have not troubled the canal much to-day, firing at the utmost but ten or fifteen shots. Think the 4.5-inch gun perplexes them. They became so incensed this afternoon that they opened on me from the heavy guns at Cox's Ferry. A few well-directed shell from the 100-pounder, No. 15, soon brought them to their senses, however. Deemed it prudent to move the three 30-pounder Parrotts about half a mile to the rear last night. Parked them just in the edge of the woods. Have a guard of six men over them, also a guard at the magazine. Trust you will permit me to exchange the 4.5-inch for them; the 30-pounder ammunition is so much surer.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

The One hundred and sixteenth U. S. Colored Troops are the only troops which have yet reported to me; they number 300 men. The Two hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, numbering 500 men, is, I believe, on the way up. No men have yet come up to garrison the redoubt beyond Four-Mile Church. Should men for this garrison arrive, I shall take out nearly 8,000 infantry even if I have no other re-enforcements.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864—6.15 a. m.

Lieutenant SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in the extent of my line since yesterday. No troops of the Eighteenth Corps have come to relieve us and to enable us to shorten our line. About an hour after dark it was reported by an officer from that corps that the division was about five miles from the Charles City road, and at that time had not started. That is the last word we have of the troops who were to relieve the right of our line.

Very respectfully,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding.

General Ames' line is very attenuated, too much so for safety, and yet I do not feel authorized to direct him to contract it toward his left without authority from General Butler.

A. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general directs me to say that your last dispatch was forwarded to General Butler, who replies that General Weitzel could not see to move last night, but will move this morning.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to request that you will make every endeavor to communicate with General Weitzel, and urge him to get the division in on your right. As soon as he does so you will move to the left. You will hold yourself in readiness to move to your left in case we are attacked, whether relieved by General Weitzel or not.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Weitzel has been ordered to withdraw. He will pass in your rear, probably close behind, so that his troops will be within supporting distance. As soon as his rear passes your right, you will break off your right brigade to the left and rear, and the other brigades successively, so that you may be able during the movement to form two lines in case of an attack.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General AMES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Weitzel's column has passed down, so that his rear rests on the Darbytown road. He desires that you will at once commence to withdraw.

Very respectfully, &c.,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

You will cross the Darbytown road, forming in rear of General Foster's division.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General HAWLEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that General Butler thinks there is nothing but reserves in your front. He wishes you to push in at once and try what they are made of.

Very respectfully,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

ATLEE'S FARM,
Near Darby Road, October 28, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Major-General WEITZEL:

You will withdraw to your former position. I think a shorter and better way is to withdraw in the rear of Ames' line by the nearest road. This movement will be made quietly but promptly, covering your rear and flanks.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
White's Tavern, October 28, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

I am taking my position as quick as I can. Before I can tell anything about my line I must cut roads through the woods to see where they will come out. I expect to join Terry's right some time to-day. At present time I straddle the Charles City road. As soon as I do join Terry's right, my right flank, although refused, can be easily turned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

I have just got in. My troops are all inside of our lines. I left the Darbytown road as soon as one of Terry's aides reported to me that he was all right. I moved from the Charles City road literally as you ordered it, and in the only military way such a movement should be made. I understand that somebody at Terry's understood it differently.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 28, 1864.

Lieut. Col. GEORGE A. KENSEL:

General Heckman tells me that a Tenth Corps surgeon has circulated a report that my column was repulsed at Williamsburg road, routed, that it lost artillery, &c., and other lying reports. I have ordered his name to be ascertained, then I will report him.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
October 28, 1864. (Received 6.30 p. m.)

General WEITZEL:

The Army of the Potomac accomplished nothing yesterday. As regards the matter of your movement to-day, it was all straight. The general will explain to you the circumstances when you both meet.

GEO. A. KENSEL,
Chief of Staff.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 28, 1864.

Each division will occupy the same position on the line that it did before the late movement. The One hundred and seventh, the One hundred and seventeenth, and the One hundred and eighteenth U. S. Colored Troops will retire from the line and encamp in Cox's field as a provisional brigade, under command of the ranking officer, to be thoroughly drilled and disciplined. The commanding officer of this brigade will send a staff officer to these headquarters for orders. Division commanders and chief of artillery will send to these headquarters as quickly as possible a field report of their commands for the 27th and 28th instant; also a list of casualties. They will, in addition, send a list of names of the killed, wounded, and missing in the late engagements, together with a report of operations.

By command of Brevet Major-General Weitzel:

D. D. WHEELER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S FARM, *October 28, 1864—7 a. m.*

General BUTLER:

Our lookouts report two bugle calls and seven reveilles this morning. Two deserters from the Eighth Virginia report that no regiment belonging to Hunton's brigade has left and that it was understood General Pickett intended attacking our line this morning.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM.

HATCHER'S FARM, [*October*] *28, 1864—8 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Army of the James:

A colored man has just come in who left Petersburg yesterday. He reports that a great portion of artillery on the line between Swift Creek and the Appomattox was removed toward South Side road yesterday. He says only the usual trains ran on the Richmond and Petersburg road yesterday and that no infantry has been removed. I have provided the man with a horse and sent him to you.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 28, 1864.

Colonel JOURDAN,
Commanding, Headquarters Eighteenth Army Corps:

Please inform me if there is any attack or firing on your front.

R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS INTRENCHED LINES, EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
Fort Burnham, October 28, 1864.

Maj. R. S. DAVIS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There is no attack or firing on my front except an occasional shot at Dutch Gap.

J. JOURDAN,
Colonel, Commanding.

NEWPORT NEWS, *October 28, 1864.*
(Received 11 a. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

I have just received a telegram from the War Department ordering me to report immediately to you in person. It will take a few days to close up my accounts here. Shall this be done now or after I have visited you?

EDWD. A. WILD,
Brigadier-General.

Yes; close up your accounts.

B. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 29, 1864—1 p. m. (Sent 1.20 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The different corps of the army engaged in the recent reconnaissance returned yesterday afternoon to their several positions, since which all is quiet. Late in the morning small bodies of the enemy's cavalry appeared and followed the withdrawal, evidently simply as observers. Signal officers reported at intervals during the afternoon the return of bodies of the enemy to their lines and toward Petersburg. I forward a dispatch received at 12 m. to-day from Major General Hancock.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Egan reports that his skirmishers, who had crossed the run above the bridge preparatory to his infantry attack, captured one gun and limber full of ammunition. The gun was captured by a few men of the One hundred and sixty-fourth New York, the regiment selected to carry the position. When General Egan moved his troops against the enemy who were attacking Mott, these skirmishers, who were left to head the bridge, chopped the spokes off the wheels and threw the gun into the mill-pond. The officer with the party thinks the gun entirely covered. General Egan has three stand of colors.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
October 29, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Wise's brigade, of Johnson's division, came into General Miles' lines last evening. From them we learn that three brigades of Johnson's division (Ransom's, Gracie's, and Elliott's) moved on Thursday morning last to the right and took the position vacated by Mahone's division, which moved to the extreme right about 10 a. m. of the same day. Wise's brigade was left to hold the line originally occupied by Johnson's division. A rebel lieutenant from the Forty-sixth Virginia, Wise's brigade, came over to General Miles night before last. His statement corroborates the above. Johnson's division had not returned last evening. All the prisoners of war taken in the late engagement represent MacRae's and Cooke's brigades, of Heth's division, and Mahone's old and Wilcox's brigades, of Mahone's division. Information from City Point shows no movement of Pickett's, Field's, or Hoke's divisions.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

STATION NEAR FRIEND'S HOUSE,
October 29, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

There are some very small new camps of the enemy visible this a. m.: one among the new works on the left large enough to indicate that 100 men are there. There is no change in the works.

B. W. MARCY,
In Charge of Station.

AVERY HOUSE, *October 29, 1864—10 a. m.*

Major FISHER:

Station here reports enemy's works in this front heavily manned.

W. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Stations report a train of twenty ambulances moving eastward along the Cox road this p. m. and the enemy's lines near J. Boisseau's and R. Jones' houses occupied. A small body of infantry in line all the p. m. near Butterworth's house on Boydton plank road.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The plank road station reports:

Three hundred infantry in line, with arms stacked, a little to the right and rear of the lead-works. The enemy's line in our front as far left as the lead-works has assumed the same appearance as before the move. From lead-works to the left, as far as can be seen from this station, the tents have been put up in line of works as formerly and camps are being established in their old positions west of the Weldon railroad to the right of the fort.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 29, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major FISHER:

The regiment reported this a. m. as in line to the right and rear of lead-works is still there; has been in line all day. Camps west of railroad and to the right of large fort have been but partially re-established. The greater portion of the troops are lounging around and have not put up tents; have had rations issued them and have been up in line several times during the day. In our immediate front the enemy shows a strong line and appears desirous of keeping them from view as much as possible; could not see where they came from.

A. K. CAROTHERS,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 29, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

At 9.30 a. m. about 100 pioneers made their appearance in works near Jones'; at 12.30 p. m. four wagons passed westward on Boydton plank road; at 4.30 p. m. nineteen ambulances passed point 15 degrees east of north on Cox road, going eastward. The enemy has apparently reoccupied his former camps along this front.

J. L. PRAY,
Sergeant.

CAMP 205TH REGIMENT PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS,
Old Court-House, Va., October 29, 1864.

Col. J. A. MATHEWS,
Commanding Post:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I have been relieved from a tour of duty for forty-eight hours as field officer of the day by Capt. Joseph G. Holmes, Company B, Two hundred and fifth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, and during my tour of duty, commencing the 27th, I had the pickets all posted as my predecessor had them, and there being no cavalry in our front I was re-enforced by the arrival of

two sergeants and thirty-one mounted men from Dismounted Camp, who I posted along our east front picket-line with several posts, after sunset, who remained on duty until sunrise the next morning. One of these vedettes being posted not far from Ralph's house and in front of our line three-eighths of a mile, in a large body of timber at the confluence of two roads, and consisted of three men armed with sabers and revolvers, were, on or about 2 a. m. of the 28th instant, captured, together with their horses and accouterments, by what pretended to be a lieutenant and four privates of the rebel army. One of the men escaped, however, from them and returned to his comrades during the day, from whom I derive my information concerning their capture. The night being very dark, and surrounded by a dense pine wood, the rain falling, together with the stamping of their horses a short distance in their rear, precluded them from hearing the approach of the enemy until they suddenly appeared in their front, at the distance of five or six paces from them, with arms ready to fire, and demanding their surrender. The escaped man says, further, that so far as he could judge in the darkness, several of their captors were armed with double-barreled fowling-pieces, and in consequence of all these facts, these men, I conclude, are within our lines, and may perhaps belong to those who have taken the oath of allegiance, and have safeguards at their houses.

In the morning of the 28th, after learning of the capture of this post from the sergeant in command, I, at once, with a sergeant and sixteen mounted men, proceeded to the spot above mentioned, and following their tracks from thence to a small stream which crosses the road, from whence they appeared to diverge to the left, pursuing our course along the stream until we arrived at the cleared land; it then went in the direction of the residence of a man named Taylor. From there we followed it but a short distance, when we lost all trace of them; but still pursuing a course in a southeasterly direction, visiting a number of houses in our course, until we came out to the south of Prince George Court-House. We then retraced our way back to Doctor Eppes' house, meeting with nothing on our way to give us any clue to the captured men. I would state that of all the houses we visited there were no white men present with but one exception, and that was near the Court-House. All the others were away from home with the ostensible purpose of drawing rations from the United States Government. At every inhabited house I found a safeguard, the owner having taken the oath. Permit me, colonel, to make one remark in reference to these men, and that is this. These are the men who, under cover of darkness, infest our picket-line, endeavoring to pick off our men, and I would respectfully submit that the safeguards be withdrawn and the parties themselves to go outside of our lines, either north or south. This squad of men were relieved at 4 p. m. by the arrival of thirty-four men, in charge of Sergeant Heslop, of the Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, who had also fifty men brought out the afternoon of the 27th, who were stationed farther off on the left of the Birchett house, with a line of four posts perpendicular to their base on the road running east and west by the Eppes dwelling, the whole numbering eighty-four men.

On the evening of the 28th, about 7.30 p. m., a company of cavalry of the Tenth New York arrived, in charge of a lieutenant. The company numbers sixty non-commissioned officers and privates. At the Eppes house, from the Prince George Court-House, along the stage road, there is at present the First Pennsylvania Cavalry, with the Tenth New York, doing duty on said road, with headquarters at the Court-House, with orders to report to General Gregg, by whose orders

they were sent out. I would state, further, that during the night of the 27th one of the cavalry vedettes, being attacked or frightened by something in his vicinity, fell back to the main line, and being challenged and not answering, he was fired upon by the man on duty, and unfortunately the ball struck him in the calf of the left leg, making a severe flesh wound.

During the night of the 28th there was some firing along our line that commences at or near Doctor Eppes' house and extends along that road to a point beyond Ralph's house, near which it crosses the road, coming from Bailey's Creek. I had received an additional re-enforcement of fifty dismounted cavalry, and distributed these men along the line with my own, thereby strengthening each post. The firing was some from the cavalry along my east front and some from my own pickets, who thought in the darkness they distinguished objects moving near their posts, and having challenged them, receiving no answers, fired their muskets several times during the night. I gave orders at night, when I passed along the line, for the posts to change their positions to places different from those occupied during the day.

Colonel, in conclusion, I would say that the officers and men in my charge have done their duty as intrusted to them well and faithfully; and further, that the line as now established needs no change, in my judgment.

I am, very respectfully, colonel, your most obedient servant,

W. F. WALTER,

Lieut. Col. 205th Regt. Penn. Vols., Field Officer of the Day.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded, with an apology for the voluminousness of the document.

J. A. MATHEWS,
Colonel, Commanding Post.

[Second indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to General Patrick for perusal, and with the recommendation that the safeguard be withdrawn from the house of the said Taylor, if not from all others except known loyal men, if any such are to be found.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

My command is located as follows: One brigade of Third Division near Chieves' house; the rest of the division near the Southall house; one brigade, Second Division, in rear of Fort Stedman; the rest of the division in rear of these headquarters. There is nothing new to report, except that the enemy's works are well manned this morning. A regiment was sent to Cedar Level last night for guard.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the three batteries of this command, which accompanied the column on the recent movement, returned yesterday and camped with the Second and Third Divisions. Nothing of importance has occurred on the line during the past twenty four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 181. } HDQRS. ARTY. BRIG., SECOND CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

I. Capt. A. J. Clark, First New Jersey Artillery, is relieved from the charge of the batteries on the line.

* * * * * * *

III. The commanding officer of Battery K, Fourth U. S. Artillery, will place one section of his battery in Fort Bross and one in Fort Patrick Kelly without delay. His camp can remain where it now is.

IV. The commanding officer of Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, will place two guns of his battery in Fort Blaisdell, near the plank road, without delay (rear line), and select a suitable camp near by for the rest of his battery.

V. The commanding officer of the Tenth Massachusetts Battery will move to Fort Stevenson without delay and place four guns of his battery in the work. He will select a suitable camp near by for the rest of his battery. Fort Stevenson is the very large work near where the Williams house used to be, on the rear line.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTY-FIRST NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
Fort McGilvery, October 29, 1864.

Capt. W. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to request that an engineer officer be sent to this work in order to examine as to whether the enemy are mining the fort. My impression is that they are mining, though from the nature of the ravine on my front I had thought it impossible. I would suggest immediate action.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. W. SCOTT,
Major, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION,
October 29, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, with the recommendation that an engineer officer be sent to examine this fort.

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

I do not think it probable that the enemy are engaged in any mining operations against Fort McGilvery, as the flat in front would make their operations very difficult if not impossible, and the distance is considerable. Still, I think it would be advisable, if for no other reason, than to allay the apprehensions of the garrison, to let an engineer officer examine the matter and report whether he thinks any countermine or listening galleries necessary.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 30, 1864.

The commanding general directs that an engineer officer be sent at once to Fort McGilvery to make the examination within desired.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, ENGINEER DEPT.,
October 30, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

An engineer officer has been ordered to make the necessary examinations at Fort McGilvery.

N. MICHLER,
Major of Engineers.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 74. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

The brigadier-general, temporarily commanding the division, on relinquishing command, takes pleasure in commending the officers and men for their unexcelled discipline and gallantry during the late operations. He has never had the pleasure of witnessing greater bravery or the good fortune to be better supported, although entirely surrounded by a vastly superior force and of the élite of the rebel army. Your heroic steadiness has proved your ability to win victory in spite of apparently insurmountable difficulties. The behavior of his command compels him to pass over to them as their right the encomiums of his superiors. It gives him unfeigned gratification to be able to commend all parts of his command without exception, and to assure them that proper representations of the facts will be made to the major-general commanding on his return.

By command of Brigadier-General Egan, commanding division:

WILL GILDER,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 75. } *October 29, 1864.*

The undersigned, on assuming the command of the division, cannot refrain from expressing his great gratification at the testimonials he has received from the division commander and the highest authorities of the gallant conduct of the division in the late engagement near Hatcher's Run. With such conduct in action he feels no fears as to the past gallant reputation of the division being maintained.

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

Maj. SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that this command arrived in camp at 5 p. m. yesterday. The Second and Third Brigades were massed near the Southall house, and the First Brigade in rear of Chieves' house. At dark the First Maine Heavy Artillery, Colonel Shepherd commanding, was sent to Cedar Level Station to protect commissary stores.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to say that in ordering a regiment of not less than 140 in strength to be forwarded to Cedar Level Station, last evening, it was intended that the regiment should be about that number. If a regiment of that description cannot be forwarded, then all of the men at Cedar Level Station in excess of about that number will be returned to your present station.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: Through you I beg to thank Colonel McAllister, commanding your Third Brigade, for indispensable service rendered to myself and command during the recent operations. Colonel McAllister brought up his command at a critical moment when I was almost surrounded by a force of vast disparity of strength. The defiant bearing of the enemy showed that they regarded their combinations as undoubt-

edly successful, and wanting only final execution. My command had done everything possible when Colonel McAllister saved them. I cannot sufficiently thank him. The recounting of the particulars of his services is unnecessary, as they are too brilliant not to have been made public ere this, but I beg that you will, if consistent, commend them at large to the major-general commanding the corps, as I shall take great pleasure in doing.

Your most obedient servant,

T. W. EGAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Second Division.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

The following disposition of troops is ordered: General De Trobriand, commanding First Brigade, will place his brigade in camp near the Chieves house as a support to the line near the plank road. General Pierce, commanding Second Brigade, will place his brigade in camp in the rear of Fort Alexander Hays. Colonel McAllister, commanding Third Brigade, will furnish garrison for Forts Bross, Patrick Kelly, Blaisdell, and Stevenson. The reserves of this brigade will encamp near the Southall house. There will be a section of artillery in each of Forts Bross, Kelly, and Blaisdell, and four guns in Fort Stevenson. The camps of the brigades must in all cases be entirely screened from the view of the enemy, that they may hereafter be broken up without discovery, and no trees will be allowed to be cut down in the front that may expose the camps.

This order will go into effect this evening; the preliminary arrangements can be made during the day.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. DE TROBRIAND,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: In pursuance with instructions from corps headquarters, the brevet major-general commanding desires that all troops in excess of 140 men now stationed at Cedar Level Station be withdrawn and ordered to join your command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

AVERY'S HOUSE, *October 29, 1864.*

Lieutenant STRONG:

A party of about 100 are engaged in extending rifle-pits in rear and left of Whitworth battery. The enemy in works in our front are still as numerous as this a. m.

JANSEN.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 372. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, October 29, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

17. Brig. Gen. E. A. Wild, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty as commandant of the recruiting rendezvous established by General Orders, No. 227, July 9, 1864, from this office, at Fort Monroe, Va., and will report for duty to Major-General Butler, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 29, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy commenced to fire quite rapidly at the canal this morning. Opened with the 4.5-inch gun and soon caused them to slacken their fire. Was at your headquarters much during the afternoon. Mr. Woodruff informs me that they shelled but little after I left. Just now, 9 p. m., they are making considerable noise. In fact, most of their practice is between dark and daylight.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

FORT MONROE, *October 29, 1864.*
(Received 11.35 p. m.)

Major-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

When your dispatch was received the Atlantic and Baltic had gone to Point Lookout for sick prisoners. I will transfer these prisoners to other boats when they arrive here. The boats were taken as the only safe boats in the service fit to convey sick and wounded soldiers of the United States who have been languishing in prisons for many months. They are the only boats fit for that purpose as hospital boats on the coast in the November storms. The soldiers of the United States sick and wounded in the comfortable hospital at Fort Monroe General Butler thought could wait there before they were transported to New York, and the surgeons in charge go with them to that city on a pleasure trip, better than could our soldiers, sick, emaciated, and wounded, stay in a filthy Southern prison and die for want of this transportation, which, in fact, is not employed more than half the time. If our soldiers die in foreign prisons for want of this transportation their friends and countrymen must hold the Surgeon-General responsible, and not General Butler, for inhumanity. There are plenty of boats that can run to New York with safety.

By command of Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler:

R. C. WEBSTER,
Colonel and Quartermaster.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., October 29, 1864.

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you assume command of the line of intrenchments from the left of your present position to the James River on your right, including Deep Bottom.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

Col. E. W. SMITH:

Ames left a part of his force, including his picket-line, out at the Darbytown road until dusk, so that the enemy might not see his withdrawal. His men are all in now. One cavalry officer was somewhat severely wounded. Two of the infantry slightly wounded.

Very respectfully,

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864. (Received 2.45 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Since sending my last dispatch it is reported that the number of men holding the works is a very small squad. I have, therefore, directed General Ames to push one battalion ahead and to delay the march of the rest of the two brigades until I could communicate with you. My impression is that the matter is so trifling that the enemy will fall back as soon as our infantry show themselves, and the cavalry can re-establish their picket-line.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 29, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Let the brigades of Ames move out, so as to be in supporting distance of West. It is not worth while to take any risks. You do not give the hour of your dispatches.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

Your dispatch is just received. At the same moment General Ames came in from the Johnson house, whither he went to reconnoiter. He

informs me that he ascertained that once or twice last night the enemy advanced a small force and pushed back the cavalry pickets in the Johnson field, and they were in turn pushed back by our cavalry. They have now advanced a skirmish line or picket-line from the edge of the woods up to the intrenchments where they cross the Darby road. I have ordered General Ames to take two brigades and move out there, but I presume they will yield to a slight pressure and withdraw their line to the old position. I think there is nothing in the movement.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 29, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Lieut. Col. ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There was only a small party on the earth-works firing on the pickets. A few dismounted cavalrymen and Ames' skirmishers showed themselves and they went away. Our skirmishers are now on the works, exchanging shots with the enemy's pickets. Colonel West will establish his line in the old position, but thinks he cannot hold it if they choose to drive him away. Do you wish any portion of Ames' command to remain here?

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
[*October*] *29, 1864—5 p. m.*

Major-General TERRY:

Let Ames withdraw his men. Let Colonel West hold the position until he is driven out.

By order of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 33. } *In the Field, Va., October 29, 1864.*

The general commanding is pleased to have this opportunity of informing brigade and regimental commanders of the division that their conduct and the part which they have taken in the action and on the march of the 27th and 28th instant was such as to meet with the approval of the brevet major-general commanding the corps. He also takes pleasure in complimenting the division on their conduct during the march. Notwithstanding the number of recruits which have recently joined the command, there was little or no straggling. Both officers and men deserve much credit for thus overcoming one of the greatest evils of the army.

II. Capt. T. Ellery Lord, Third Infantry New York Volunteers, is hereby announced as acting assistant adjutant-general of the division during the absence of Capt. P. A. Davis, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

T. ELLERY LORD,
Capt., Third Infty. New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3. } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 3D DIV., 10TH A. C., *Chaffin's Farm, Va., October 29, 1864.*

In compliance with Special Orders, No. 27, headquarters Third Division, Tenth Army Corps, October 29, 1864, the undersigned hereby assumes command of this brigade. All existing orders will remain in force until otherwise ordered.

ELIAS WRIGHT,
Colonel Tenth U. S. Colored Troops.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 74. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA, *New Berne, N. C., October 29, 1864.*

The undersigned hereby resumes command of the District of North Carolina. All existing orders and regulations will remain in force until otherwise ordered.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 30, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing particular to report to-day. If you are going to be at home I will come down to City Point.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October 30, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General, City Point:

Various reports have reached this Department that you are co-operating with the election agents sent to the army by Governor Seymour, to the extent of showing them favors and furnishing them with facilities not warranted by the passes granted them by this Department and not accorded by you to the agents of the Union party. In view of these reports I am instructed by the Secretary of War to notify you that he expects from you careful and exact impartiality toward the representatives of the two parties; and also that, as the agents of Governor Seymour here and in Baltimore have been detected in the perpetration of gross frauds and forgeries for the purpose of causing the votes of soldiers to be counted in favor of Democratic candidates, when these soldiers intended to vote against such candidates, he expects you to exercise

vigilance for the detection of all such crimes within your jurisdiction; and should it finally appear that such wrongs have been consummated, when due watchfulness on your part might have prevented them, you will be held responsible for the same.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 30, 1864—12 m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The plank road station reports:

Apparently a less force in our immediate front than yesterday evening, but heavier than usual. Tents were put up in camps west of the Weldon railroad during the night, giving them their old appearance.

Church road station reports:

12 M.

About one small brigade of enemy's infantry has just broken camp in woods near Boisseau's, and has marched to our left.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
October 30, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The several signal stations report nothing but minor movements on the part of the enemy:

About 600 of the enemy came from their right and went into camp in the vicinity of Boisseau's. About 350 left their lines to our right of the Jerusalem plank road and moved toward the city.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Jordan, Carothers, and Holman report no changes; all quiet. Messages intercepted are of no moment, reporting only movements of our wagon trains, &c. Jordan reports 350 of enemy's infantry left works near school-house and disappeared behind the hill going toward the city. All quiet.

F. E. TOWN,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864—11.20 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS:

I propose to relieve General Miles by the other two divisions. Does General Meade approve?

Very respectfully, &c.,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 30, 1864—11.40 a. m. (Sent 11.50 a. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general approves.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

Just after I returned this evening I learned that the enemy captured a few of General Miles' picket-line between Forts Davis and Alexander Hays about 9 p. m. How many were captured I cannot say. General Mott is re-establishing the line. He was about relieving General Miles. It is said the pickets understood the enemy to be our own relief, and so did not fire a shot. I have manned the rifle-pits up to Battery 24. Perhaps General Crawford had better do the same beyond, though I anticipate no further advance unless because the enemy effected such easy capture. I know very little of the actual truth of the affair. It is said some of the vedettes remained in front after the posts had been captured, ignorant of the whole affair. The captain who brought in the report and who escaped has been in service only two weeks.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864.

The following disposition of troops is ordered for to-night:

The Third Division, Major-General Mott commanding, will relieve the First Division in the garrisons of Battery 24, 150 men; Fort Hays, 300 men; Fort Davis, 550 men; Fort Sedgwick, 800 men; Fort Rice, 250 men; Fort Meikel, 150 men; Fort Morton, 400 men; and Battery 14, 150 men. This division will relieve also the picket-line of the First Division between Battery 24 and Battery 13. The reserves of the division will be placed in rear of Fort Hays, in the second line at Fort Sedgwick, and in rear of Fort Morton. The picket details will be made up from the garrisons and reserves.

As fast as it is relieved the First Division will be massed near the Southall house. General Miles will place about 250 men in Fort Bross,

about 150 men in each of Forts Blaisdell and Patrick Kelly, and one of about 550 in Fort Stevenson, relieving the Third Division now in those forts.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that yesterday two guns of Roder's battery were placed in position in Fort Bross and two in Fort Patrick Kelly; two of Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, in Fort Blaisdell, and four of the Tenth Massachusetts Battery in Fort Stevenson. Nothing of importance has occurred on the line during the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864.

Col. C. D. MACDOUGALL,
Commanding Consolidated Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you will garrison the forts named, as follows: Fort Bross, 250 men; Fort Blaisdell, 150 men; Fort Patrick Kelly, 150 men; Fort Stevenson, 550 men. He directs that these garrisons be formed from regiments other than the Sixty-third, Sixty-ninth, and Eighty-eighth New York. These regiments, with the remainder of the brigade, after furnishing the garrisons named, will be massed near the Southall house.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864.

Lieut. Col. K. O. BROADY,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you will place the portion of your brigade that is to be relieved to-night in the rear of Fort Haskell, after it is relieved.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 3D DIV., 2D A. C.,
October 30, 1864.

The colonel commanding brigade congratulates the officers and men of this command for the manner in which they marched to the Boydton

plank road and the gallantry displayed by them in the battle of the 27th instant, reflecting great credit on the old brigade. Your bravery and determination, as exhibited when surrounded by the enemy, is a new wreath added to the laurels of honor already won by this command in days that are passed. May this and the gallant deeds of those battles stimulate us to do or die for our country in the great cause in which we are engaged. Let each one of us resolve to do our duty, and by the blessing of God victory will perch on our banners, peace will crown our exertions, and millions will do honor to those who have so nobly borne our battle-flag through the trying scenes of this rebellion. As we shed a tear over the lost comrades that have fallen by our side let our prayers go up to God for protection to the widow and the orphan, and our sympathy be with them.

By command of Col. Robert McAllister:

THOS. H. DUNHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance occurred in my front yesterday or during the night. No change observed in enemy's position.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 30, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

There is considerable firing on the plank road, and it appears to be extending toward the Weldon railroad. Will you caution Crawford to be ready to send supports to the intrenchments on the right of the Weldon railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864—9.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

General Crawford has just sent the following:

The enemy about an hour ago advanced their skirmish line on our right, and by a flank movement struck the skirmish line of the Second Corps in front of Fort A. Hays, capturing in their advance toward our left some 300 men from the One hundred and eleventh New York and the Sixty-ninth New York. They retired at about a point opposite to Battery 24.

General Crawford says he has just seen and conversed with a man from the One hundred and eleventh New York, who escaped from the enemy at a point near their works. Your dispatch received. Instructions will be sent to General Crawford at once.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that after your men have got their dinner you relieve General Baxter's pickets along the whole line. It will take 800 officers and men. The pickets will remain out two days. A division officer of the day will be detailed for the whole line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864—9.40 p. m.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: Your dispatch received by Lieutenant Herr has been telegraphed to army headquarters.* The major-general commanding desires you to be ready to support any portion of your line in case it should be threatened. General Baxter's pickets were relieved this afternoon by a detail from General Ayres, as it is intended by the major-general commanding to picket the whole of our front by division, to be relieved every two days.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864. (Received 11.05 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report nothing unusual transpired along our lines. Some picket-firing occurred during the night. A deserter from the Eighteenth North Carolina came in this morning; recently joined; does not seem to know much.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

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* See Warren to Humphreys, 9.40 p. m., p. 439.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 30, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

Pratt's battery can be moved to No. 17 and transferred to the new work as soon as the latter is finished. The 8-inch mortars can also be transferred from near Fort Sedgwick to No. 20. Can the work be done to-night?

H. J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *October 30, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

I will send transportation to move the guns and mortars from Fort Sedgwick back to No. 17 and No. 20 to-night.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 30, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that I have been in and around the canal a good portion of the day. Very strangely, there has been less shelling and more casualties than for several days previous; 1 man killed and 2 wounded, and 2 horses killed outright. Major Ludlow acknowledges, however, that the 4.5-inch gun does the business effectually. Received the new projectile; shall make a careful report of its efficacy. General Butler sent me to-day forty-nine boxes and six barrels, the boxes containing 100-pounder shell and the barrels incendiary composition. Am directed to store them in magazine until further orders. Will send you a copy of my report to him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 30, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Tenth Army Corps:

I am about to leave for Fortress Monroe. The command of the forces will therefore devolve immediately upon you. Please keep me advised by telegraph of any movement, and in six hours I will be here.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

Forward to General Weitzel for his information.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864.

First Lieut. HENRY Y. WILDEY,
Commanding Battery E, First Pennsylvania Artillery:

SIR: As soon as your battery is relieved by Anthony's (New York) battery, you will move to and take position in the Spring Hill redoubt on the New Market road.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Artillery, Tenth Army Corps.

IN THE FIELD, VA., *October 30, 1864.*

Capt. ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Dept. of Va. and N. C., Army of the James:

SIR: We the undersigned, officers of the Twenty-second Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, most respectfully and urgently solicit an order convening a court of inquiry to investigate the action and conduct of Col. J. B. Kiddoo, while commanding the regiment during the 27th instant, and leading it into action on the evening of the same day. Fully imbued with the responsibility resting on us while taking our men into action, we hold it to be due to the honor and name of the regiment to which it is our pride to belong, as also a duty owing to ourselves as men and officers and to the men under our charge, that the veil be lifted which enshrouds our disgraceful rout on the 27th instant; that we, as a regiment, be cleared of the disgrace attaching to us since that day, and that the blame may rest where it properly belongs, on the head of the guilty party or parties. Our men and ourselves will ever be ready to sacrifice our all and our lives for our country, in whose cause we have enlisted, heart and soul, to the bitter end, but we cannot repel the thought that it is rather asking too much of thinking men to risk their lives, which are valuable, if not to themselves, to the country in its present hour of need, to carry out the sublime views and plans of a whisky-crazed brain. Reiterating our prayer to have by the proper authority a court of inquiry instituted in the above premises, with the view of preventing the recurrence of such a disgraceful affair as was enacted by our regiment on the 27th instant, and in the hope that we do not transgress the line of our duty in so doing, we have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

ARTHUR P. MOREY,
Captain, 22d U. S. Colored Troops, Commanding Company F.
ARTHUR MARKS,
Captain Company I, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops.
LEVI GRAYBILL,
Captain Company E, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops.
WILLIAM W. BURKE,
Captain Company C, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops.
C. McKEY,
Captain Company D, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops.
C. F. EICHACKER,
Captain, 22d U. S. Colored Troops, Commanding Company G.
WILLIAM D. MILLIKEN,
First Lieutenant, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-SECOND U. S. COLORED TROOPS,
In the Field, Va., October 31, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

I. C. TERRY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 1, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

A. G. CHAMBERLAIN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

[Third indorsement.]

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 3, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

These officers probably have some cause of complaint as to the manner in which that regiment was handled, but it is doubtful whether they have sought their remedy in the proper manner.

ALONZO G. DRAPER,
Brevet Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 3, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded because orders compel me to.

I have had as much opportunity for judging of Colonel Kiddoo's conduct on this occasion and others as anybody else. I think all this unwarranted and prompted by malice somewhere. I consider Colonel Kiddoo the finest gentleman and officer in my Third Division.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 31, 1864—12 m. (Received 7.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I received yesterday, per Captain Alden, the several commissions by brevet with which you have honored this army. I find, however, upon examination of them, that in changing the recommended dates, owing to the decision of the Senate not to confirm any appointments with a date anterior to their adjournment, that you have unintentionally changed the proposed relative rank of officers, and in such manner as not only to do injustice but to create confusion in case these officers are assigned to duty with their brevet rank. For instance, Brigadier-General Barlow has held his rank for over two years, has been distinguished in every action since Gettysburg, and was most conspicuously distinguished in the great battle of Spotsylvania, May 20, 1864, and was recommended for full promotion for this battle; he is brevetted on October 21. Brigadier-General Miles, during all the service of

General Barlow, served as colonel under his command, was promoted after numerous recommendations a brigadier-general May 12, 1864, and is now brevetted a major-general from August 25, causing him to rank his superior officer, General Barlow, equally conspicuous for gallantry, and as strongly urged for promotion, and, practically, if General Miles is assigned to duty with his brevet rank, giving him the command of the division in which he has always served under Barlow, unless he is transferred to another corps, and then he would rank all the division commanders, who were brigadier-generals commanding divisions long before General Miles was promoted from a colonelcy or had held a higher command than a brigade, viz, Willcox, Crawford, Griffin, Ayres, Cutler, and Potter; also, Brigadier-General Mott has been brevetted to date September 10, 1864, which would make him rank Willcox, Crawford, and Griffin, his seniors as brigadier-generals and commanders of divisions. Feeling satisfied such was not your intention, and that this condition of affairs has arisen from your attention not being particularly called to the effect of the dates given to these commissions, I have assumed the responsibility of withholding their distribution until a reference can be had to you, and I respectfully recommend I be authorized to return them to the Department, and one of two courses be adopted: Either give them all the same date, in which case the previous relative rank of officers will not be altered, or else change the dates of such as are now October 21, so as to cause the relative rank of the brevet commissions to correspond with previous rank. I would also suggest, as a most gratifying act to the officers concerned, that without reference to the dates of commissions these commissions should embody the reasons for which they were conferred.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 31, 1864—2 p. m. (Sent 2.40 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

About 8 p. m. last evening the enemy made a dash on the picket-line of the Second Corps west of the plank road. They were quickly repulsed and the line re-established. Major-General Hancock reports about 60 men lost as his casualties. I forward you a dispatch* just received from Major-General Hancock, in relation to the affair of the 27th instant. General Hancock does not mention in it that the bridge was held till after midnight and that two regiments of his command remained in possession of the field till after 8 o'clock the next morning, when they withdrew, followed by a force of the enemy's cavalry.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *October 31, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Order to New York city at once the brigade of regular troops in the Fifth Corps.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See p. 448.

CITY POINT, *October 31, 1864.*

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A week ago General Halleck informed General Grant that the Seventh Infantry was on its way here. Several days subsequent General Grant authorized General Dix to retain the regiment until further orders if it had not already left New York. We have heard nothing from it since, and do not know whether it is on its way or was detained.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *October 31, 1864.*

General WILLIAMS:

Does General Meade wish the railroad extended toward the South Side road? If so, a force can be put in the work on Wednesday, a. m.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 31, 1864.

Brigadier-General INGALLS:

General Meade will be glad to have the railroad extended as far as Peebles' farm, that being at present the left of our line.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
October 31, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Scouts returned this morning from the extreme right, bringing communication from agent in Richmond to the effect that the only recent change in affairs in and about Richmond was the movement of 6,000 conscripts, on Friday last, from Camp Lee to the trenches in General Butler's front. Richmond papers of the 29th state that the enemy captured about 400 prisoners from General Butler on Thursday last and about 600 on our left. About 200 of our killed, it is reported, were left on the field. The general impression is that General Butler's movement was merely a feint and was understood to be such at the time. The movement on the left they consider of little damage to their cause. Nothing particular could be learned from the south side except from the Richmond papers. No troops have arrived on the north side since last report except conscripts, who are coming in quite rapidly. One out of every five of those detailed to work in the niter-works have recently been conscripted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Major FISHER:

A small working party engaged on works south of Boisseau's to-day. Stations report no other movements of importance.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Stations report all quiet.

STRONG.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Enemy active, improving works at different points from north-northwest left as far as lead-works. All quiet.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Jansen reports the number of the enemy's troops on our front has somewhat diminished. A small camp seen to the right of General Bushrod Johnson's headquarters. Two hundred and sixty infantry just passed to our left in enemy's front line, all armed, and with shovels and picks.

F. E. TOWN,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Enemy has an 8-inch columbiad in position on Whitworth battery to the right of lead-works. All quiet.

JANSEN.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
October 31, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 1 p. m. four regiments, numbering about 1,100 men, moved west from camp west of railroad and about the same number came in from the northwest and occupied the vacated camp. All quiet.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
October 31, 1864—6 p. m.

Captain TOWN,
Chief Signal Officer, Second Army Corps:

All quiet this p. m. The following have been intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

A steamer just came up the river and stopped off Strahan's lower landing. Gun-boat above pontoon.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

12 M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A train of flats loaded with troops just passed, going to the rear of Petersburg.

B. F.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

STEUART'S FRONT—3.30 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

About 9 a. m. a steamer passed down the river; about eight companies of infantry in line with arms stacked, rear of Battery A, were dispersed to the woods. Thirty wagons and fifteen ambulances passed up the river and fifteen wagons down. No change in our front. Dredge invisible. A lot of beeves grazing below Dutch Gap. From Dunn's: At 2 p. m. a steamer went up the river and stopped at Strahan's lower landing. Sloops off same landing. Gun-boat in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

Very respectfully,

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 294. HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *October 31, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

3. The One hundred and eighty-ninth Regiment of New York Volunteers and Battery H, First Rhode Island Artillery, having, in compliance with paragraph 1, of Special Orders, No. 113, of October 28, 1864, from headquarters Armies of the United States, reported for duty with this army, are assigned, the former to the Fifth Corps, and the latter to the Artillery Reserve.

* * * * * * *

6. In compliance with instructions received from headquarters Armies of the United States, the brigade of regular troops serving in the Fifth Corps will at once proceed to the city of New York and report for further orders to Major-General Dix. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

* * * * * * *

10. Paragraph VI, of Special Orders, No. 294, of this date, from these headquarters, directing that the brigade of regular troops serving in the Fifth Army Corps proceed to the city of New York, is revoked.

11. In compliance with instructions received from headquarters Armies of the United States, the organizations of regular infantry serving in the Fifth Army Corps will at once proceed as regiments and battalions to the city of New York and report for further orders to Maj.

Gen. J. A. Dix. A statement will be forwarded to these headquarters, showing the strength of the regiments and battalions at the time of leaving, and of their officers who are on detached service in this army, and the character of the duties such officers are performing. All enlisted men on detached service in this army belonging to the organizations will be recalled and accompany them to New York. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Last night General Mott relieved the First Division from Battery 24 to Battery 14. General Miles' division is being massed near Southall's house. Sixty men are missing this morning from the picket-line, captured by the enemy last night. It was, however, entirely re-established.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

In reference to the engagement on the Boydton plank road it is not true that the enemy had at any time six of our guns in their possession. They ran over a section of two guns at the first onset, but it was immediately recaptured. No wagons were left on the field by my command, though we took away some captured from the enemy. About 1,000 prisoners were captured from the enemy and a number of flags; number not yet ascertained. One gun, a 10-pounder Parrott, was captured at the bridge, drawn off some distance, and the gun carriage disabled. This gun would have been brought off had the proper notification of its capture been given. The infantry assault of the enemy was completely broken, and they were driven into the woods in great disorder. A battery they brought out unlimbered, but before opening fire limbered up and retired. The infantry was apparently thrown into such confusion by the attack made on its flank that it was unable to reform. The enemy was present in force. The following organizations were represented in the prisoners captured: Three brigades of Mahone's division, one of Heth's, and five brigades of Hampton's cavalry. Every wounded man for whom we could provide transportation was brought off. The rest were collected, as far as practicable in the darkness of the night and put in the houses near the field, under charge of surgeons detailed for this purpose. I regretted the necessity of this, but in order that I should effect my withdrawal as ordered that night I could not have ambulances brought up. I had but a narrow wood road, and kept this open for my artillery and troops. I commenced moving about 10 p. m.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 31, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Prisoners captured on the 27th are from Weisiger's, Harris', and Sanders' brigades, of Mahone's division; Kirkland's brigade, of Heth's division, and Butler's, Young's, Barringer's, Dearing's, and Chambliss' (old) brigades of cavalry.

JOHN MCENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
October 31, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Five hundred and thirty prisoners from Second Corps, forwarded to Yellow Tavern on 28th instant, represented all regiments of Weisiger's brigade and part of Harris' brigade, of Mahone's division; also all of Kirkland's old, now MacRae's, brigade, of Heth's division. One hundred and forty-eight from the Fifth Corps represented all of Weisiger's brigade and part of Harris' brigade, of Mahone's division; also part of MacRae's brigade, of Heth's division. Prisoners from the cavalry, including dismounted cavalry, represented Davis' and Dearing's brigades, of W. H. F. Lee's division, also Dunovant's and Young's brigades, of Butler's division. Scattering prisoners received since the 28th instant do not represent any other brigades, save those coming from elsewhere.

Respectfully,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

General HANCOCK:

I have had the regiments and batteries send in their claims to have names of battles inscribed on their flags, and find eighty-six are claimed since the war. I have submitted these to a board of three officers, as directed by General Meade's order, and the board has first to settle what battles are worthy of being so commemorated, and to name them properly. As this is a matter in which your corps is also concerned, and I suppose that under the same order you have also appointed a board for your corps, I would suggest that the boards from the Second, Ninth, and Fifth Corps meet at some common point, if it meets your views, to settle upon some general uniform principles, and confer with each other. The board in my corps is Brigadier-General Baxter, Third Division; Brevet Brigadier-General Wainwright, chief of artillery; Brevet Brigadier-General Winthrop, Second Division, and Colonel Throop, First Division, as recorder.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

(Same to Major-General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

General WARREN:

I think your suggestion a very good one, and have referred your dispatch to General Miles, president of my board, with the suggestion that informal arrangement be made between the boards for a common meeting.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: I am desirous of seeing your new lines, and will start from here to-morrow at 9 a. m. for that purpose. I wish to notify you of my intention.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

The One hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, a consolidation of three regiments, and a very small one, was in the woods at the hour of the attack on the 27th, and was advancing against the enemy's skirmishers when it met the first onset of the enemy's assault and was broken up, their colors being captured. It was foolish to take in three colors, but the regiments had a pride in them and were allowed to keep them after the consolidation. I have heard of no other losses, and believe these to be all. I have had General Mott's report, and it is not likely that any of General Egan's command lost colors. I will send General Mott's reports. The One hundred and fifth Pennsylvania is a gallant regiment, and lost its colors without disgrace. The regiment was sent out to see what was between me and Crawford, and took its colors, contrary to my general instructions to regiments skirmishing.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
OFFICE COMMISSARY OF MUSTERS,
October 31, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that between 2 and 3 p.m. on the 27th instant, General Hancock directed me to carry the following verbal message to General Crawford, commanding Third division of the Fifth Corps, operating some distance to our right: "I propose carrying the bridge across Hatcher's Run, believing that to be the readiest way of deciding our difficulties." Taking five orderlies with me, I passed back

half a mile on the road on which we had advanced in the morning, and then struck off to the left along a blind path in the direction of some desultory firing, which I conceived to be in General Crawford's front. Going upward of a mile I met the Third Brigade of the Second Division of the Fifth Corps on its way to report to General Crawford. Continuing on a short distance farther I found General Crawford and delivered my message. Soon after leaving General Hancock on the Boydton plank road, half a mile from the Burgess house, I heard very heavy firing, but knew not its cause. Leaving General Crawford I started to return to General Hancock, accompanied by Lieutenant Dresser, of the U. S. Army, who had some information from General Warren to General Meade, the purport of which I am ignorant. Keeping rather more to the right than I intended, being deceived in the direction by the firing of General Gregg's cavalry and that of the Second Corps, in the midst of a dense forest I rode up to within thirty paces of the vedettes of the enemy, who commanded me and my party to halt. Not knowing their force I turned rapidly to the left, followed by my party. The enemy, though they threatened to do so, did not fire, neither did they pursue us. I soon struck the road, on which I met three of our soldiers with four rebel prisoners, apparently lost. They were directed to the Second Corps. Soon after this I met Major Bingham, of General Hancock's staff, going with a message to General Crawford. I informed him of the danger in that direction, but he decided to try and get through and was captured, subsequently making his escape. Upon my arrival at the headquarters of the Second Corps I reported to Major-General Hancock.

I have the honor to be, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. H. STACEY,
First Lieut., 12th U. S. Infty., Com. of Musters, 2d Army Corps.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded, being probably a paper which General Meade may think of moment in connection with the connection between the Fifth and Second Corps, on the 27th instant. I intended to transmit it this afternoon with the copies of dispatches. Major Bingham's statement was transmitted this morning.*

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

That part of the line still occupied by the First Division will be relieved by the Second Division, Major-General Gibbon, commanding, as follows: Battery 13, 150 men; Fort Haskell, 250 men; Fort Stedman and Battery 10, 300 men; Battery No. 9, 150 men; Fort McGilvery, 800 men; Battery No. 5, 150 men; Battery No. 4, 150 men; Dunn's house battery, 100 men. The picket-line, including the line along the Appomattox, will also be relieved by the Second Division. The troops in Forts Stedman and Haskell and the Dunn's house battery

* See Part I, p. 238.

and Battery No. 4, and the picket-line on the river, can be relieved in the daytime. The remainder of the line will be relieved to-night. A few troops should be placed in the curtains where their tents can be seen.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

The commanding general desires that the names of officers who may have distinguished themselves during the recent operations by unusual gallantry or good conduct be forwarded to these headquarters, with a view to the recognition of their services by brevets. It is only designed to embrace a few marked cases, and commanders are requested to limit the number of recommendations.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that last night Captain Pratt's four 4½-inch guns were moved from Fort Sedgwick to Battery No. 17. When the capture of the picket-line was discovered a few shots were fired by the batteries in Fort Sedgwick.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 555. } HDQRS. 1ST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

* * * * * * *

3. Subject to the approval of the major-general commanding, the separate organizations of the Second and Third Brigades of this division are re-established. Col. Robert Nugent, Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the Second Brigade, and Col. C. D. MacDougall, One hundred and eleventh New York Volunteers, is assigned to the command of the Third Brigade. Until the proper assignments of staff officers are made, the commissary and quartermasters of the Consolidated Brigade will furnish both brigades with the supplies of their respective departments.

* * * * * * *

By order of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Col. WILLIAM WILSON, *Commanding First Brigade:*

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to say that the troops of the First Brigade will be relieved from the picket-line and inclosed works by the troops of the Second Division. As they are relieved from the line, they will be conducted by a staff officer on the road entering the woods near the Deserted House (corps headquarters), and the staff officer will report at these headquarters, where he will be instructed where the troops will encamp. The commanding officer of Company L, Fourth New York Artillery, on being relieved from the works at the Dunn house, will report with his company to Major Hazard, commanding Artillery Brigade, Second Army Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that Fort Sedgwick is garrisoned by the Ninety-ninth and One hundred and tenth Pennsylvania, and Eighty-sixth and Seventy-third New York Volunteers, numbering in all 830 enlisted men, Col. E. R. Biles, Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, commanding; Fort Rice is garrisoned by the Seventeenth Maine Volunteers, 269 enlisted men, Col. George W. West, commanding; Battery 24, by the One hundred and forty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, 150 enlisted men, Lieutenant-Colonel Tyler, commanding; Fort Alexander Hays, by the First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, 300 enlisted men, Major Shatswell, commanding; Fort Davis, by the Fifth Michigan, One hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and First U. S. Sharpshooters, numbering in all 550 enlisted men, Col. John Pulford, Fifth Michigan Volunteers, commanding; Fort Morton, by the Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, 400 enlisted men, Lieutenant-Colonel Schoonover, commanding; Fort Meikel, by the Fifth New Jersey Volunteers, 150 enlisted men, Captain Ayers, commanding; Battery 14, by the Seventh New Jersey Volunteers, and the balance of the Fifth New Jersey Volunteers, numbering in all 150 enlisted men, Captain Morrow, commanding.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front yesterday. Last night about 9.30 o'clock heavy firing was heard, both musketry and artillery, to the right of Battery 24. The enemy advanced their skirmish line, driving in the Second Corps pickets. All quiet in my own front.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 269. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *October 31, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

VI. The picket-line of the corps will be relieved to-morrow at 3 p. m., as follows: Brigadier-General Griffin will picket the line all west of the Weldon railroad. Brigadier-General Crawford will picket the line all east of the railroad. The pickets from these divisions will remain for three days, and will be relieved as often as the division commander may deem proper.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 31, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: My commander of the outposts has just sent me in the report that the enemy are moving a large force to our left. I have sent this word to General Parke.

Very respectfully,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

(Above sent to Brigadier-General Griffin.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864—11.35 p. m.

Brigadier-General AYRES,
Commanding Second Division, Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to acknowledge your note of 11.15 p. m. He would like to have your pickets on the alert and discover, if possible, how large a force of the enemy is moving, and on what roads; how long it takes them to pass a given point, and all the particulars you can ascertain. I have telegraphed the substance of your note to General Griffin.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

General CRAWFORD:

I wish you would have the ditch made as deep as it can be around Fort Howard. Have all the old breast-works leveled between it and Battery 26, and have the rear of Battery 26 built up to match the rest of it, and the ditch deepened all around, and also the parapet cut away from it on the west side. The roadway should be made good for artillery all the way down the rear of the line. Please have the work begun at this early to-morrow.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
October 31, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: My commander of the outposts has just sent in to me the report that the enemy is moving a large force to our left.

Very respectfully,

R. B. AYRES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *October 31, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have 1,200 sick men on board the hospital steamers Atlantic and Baltic ready to sail. I have no fit steamers to which to transfer them. I deem it for the interest of the service and humanity that the use I design should be made of these steamers. I am awaiting an answer to my telegram whether they shall be unloaded, and have come to Fort Monroe for the purpose of attending to it. The case will be even worse when we receive our own sick and wounded from Georgia.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October 31, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Bermuda Hundred:

Hugh Crocker, an agent of Governor Seymour, is now with the Third Brigade, Third Division of the Tenth Corps, and John F. McQuade, another such agent, and lately an aide-de-camp to Fitz John Porter, is with the Second Brigade of the same division. There is reason to believe that they are engaged in such frauds as have recently been discovered here and in Baltimore. Please have them looked after.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

FORT BRADY, VA., *October 31, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have fired but few shell at the canal during the day. Invariably stopped when we opened. Sent five Coehorn shell at my fort, killing one of the colored

supports. The engineers are erecting a mortar battery on the river, some 200 yards above; a good place. Shall try the new shell to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Lieut. R. TULLY,
Commanding Battery D, First U. S. Artillery, Camp Holly:

SIR: As soon as Captain Ashby's 20-pounder guns take position in the redoubt at Camp Holly you will return with your battery to camp.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. JACKSON,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Artillery, Tenth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 31, 1864.

Lieut. WILLIAM P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Tenth Army Corps:

SIR: I desire to call the attention of the major-general commanding to the fact that during the recent movement the Two hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers was ordered to report to me to take the place of some of my troops in the trenches. Presuming that it is not permanently assigned to this division, I would suggest that as my troops have returned to their camps, there seems to be no further need of the regiment remaining in its present position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. BIRNEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., October 31, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Va. and N. C.:

COLONEL: I have the honor to request that an order be issued from department headquarters ordering the Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, now serving in the Third Brigade, Second Division, of this corps, to relieve the Two hundredth and Two hundred and eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, and the two last regiments be ordered to report to me. The Second Pennsylvania is a larger regiment in point of numbers than the two I ask for. It was raised for garrison duty, and if the Bermuda line is to be held, should properly be there. It having so few officers and being so large is very unwieldy for field service. In conversation with the general commanding department the other day, he consented to the change.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

The following disposition of the troops of the division will be immediately made: The First and Third Brigades will hold the line from the right of Fort Harrison to where the right of the Third Brigade now rests. Lieutenant-Colonel Raulston will move the regiments of his brigade, now in the fort, to their position in the line, relieving the Second Brigade. Colonel Cullen's brigade will be held in reserve, and will go into camp near the woods in front of these headquarters. The position of his camp will be indicated by a staff officer.

By command of Brigadier-General Charles Devens:

G. A. BRUCE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[OCTOBER 31, 1864.—For statement of the "effective strength" of the armies operating against Richmond, see Part I, p. 40.]

Abstract from return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of October, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.			
General headquarters	41	.....	41	44	.....
Provost Guard (Patrick)	47	1,100	1,559	2,259	.....
Engineer Brigade (Benham)	32	2,717	3,263	3,745	.....
Battalion U. S. Engineers (Harwood)	6	204	252	314	.....
Artillery (Hunt)	44	1,463	1,605	1,839	56
Guards and orderlies (Batchelder)	1	26	96	100	.....
Signal Corps (Fisher)	9	128	157	191	.....
Second Army Corps (Hancock)	731	18,075	23,904	48,134	56
Fifth Army Corps (Warren)	707	16,102	22,193	35,018	58
Ninth Army Corps (Parke)	633	15,99	20,919	35,677	36
Second Cavalry Division (Gregg)	143	5,328	6,973	13,171	8
Total	2,394	61,136	80,962	140,492	214

Organization of the Army of the Potomac, commanded by Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, October 31, 1864.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

PROVOST GUARD.

Brig. Gen. MARSENA R. PATRICK.

80th New York (20th Militia), Col. Theodore B. Gates.
68th Pennsylvania, Col. Andrew H. Tippin.
114th Pennsylvania, Capt. John S. Crawford.
1st Indiana Cavalry, Company K, Capt. Theodore Majtheny.
1st Massachusetts Cavalry, Companies C and D, Capt. Edward A. Flint.
3d Pennsylvania Cavalry (six companies), Lieut. Col. James W. Walsh.

ENGINEER BRIGADE AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT.

Brig. Gen. HENRY W. BENHAM.

8th Delaware (three companies), Capt. Robert J. Holt.
61st Massachusetts (five companies), Lieut. Col. Charles F. Walcott.
18th New Hampshire (six companies), Lieut. Col. Joseph M. Clough.
Independent New York Company, Lieut. John Bevines.
15th New York Engineers (six companies), Maj. William A. Ketchum.
50th New York Engineers, Col. William H. Pettes.*

BATTALION U. S. ENGINEERS.

Capt. FRANKLIN HARWOOD.

GUARDS AND ORDERLIES.

Independent Company Oneida (New York) Cavalry, Capt. Daniel P. Mann.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Maj. BENJAMIN F. FISHER.

ARTILLERY.†

Brig. Gen. HENRY J. HUNT.

Artillery Park.

Capt. CALVIN SHAFFER.

Maine Light, 2d Battery (B), Capt. Albert F. Thomas.
Maine Light, 3d Battery (C), Capt. Ezekiel R. Mayo.
Massachusetts Light, 14th Battery, Capt. Joseph W. B. Wright.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery H, Capt. Crawford Allen, jr.
Vermont Light, 3d Battery, Capt. Romeo H. Start.

Sixth Corps Artillery.

Capt. WILLIAM A. HARN.

Maine Light, 4th Battery (D), Capt. Charles W. White.
1st New Jersey Light, Battery A, Capt. Augustin N. Parsons.
New York Light, 3d Battery, Lieut. Alexander S. McLain.
1st Ohio Light, Battery H, Capt. Stephen W. Dorsey.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery E, Capt. William B. Rhodes.
5th United States, Battery E, Lieut. Charles H. Carroll.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. WINFIELD S. HANCOCK.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. NELSON A. MILES.

First Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM WILSON.

28th Massachusetts, Maj. James Fleming.
26th Michigan, Maj. Nathan Church.
5th New Hampshire, Maj. Welcome A. Crafts.
61st New York, Maj. George W. Scott.
81st Pennsylvania, Maj. Lawrence Mercer.
140th Pennsylvania, Capt. Thomas Henry.
183d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. George T. Egbert.
2d New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. George Hogg.
4th New York Heavy Artillery, Capt. John B. Vande Wiele.

Consolidated Brigade.

Col. CLINTON D. MACDOUGALL.

7th New York (seven companies), Capt. Jacob Scheu.
39th New York (seven companies), Capt. David A. Allen.
52d New York (six companies), Capt. George Degener.
57th New York (two companies), Lieut. William H. French, jr.
63d New York (seven companies), Capt. Alexander Watts.
69th New York, Capt. Robert H. Milliken.
88th New York (five companies), Lieut. Col. Denis F. Burke.
111th New York, Maj. Joseph W. Corning.
125th New York, Lieut. Albert Reynolds.
126th New York, Capt. John B. Geddis.

* Commanding detachment at Washington, D. C., the remainder of regiment serving in the field under subordinate officers.

† All organizations of artillery, excepting those entered under this head, will be found in the rosters of the commands with which they served.

Fourth Brigade.

Col. ST. CLAIR A. MULHOLLAND.

64th New York, Lieut. Col. William Glenny.
66th New York, Capt. Albert Gosse.
53d Pennsylvania, Col. William M. Mintzer.
116th Pennsylvania, Capt. Louis J. Sacriste.
145th Pennsylvania, Capt. Melvin H. Bemis.
148th Pennsylvania, Capt. James J. Patterson.
7th New York Heavy Artillery, Capt. Samuel L. Anable.

SECOND DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JOHN GIBBON.

Provost Guard.

2d Company Minnesota Sharpshooters, Capt. Mahlon Black.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS W. EGAN.

19th Maine, Maj. Isaac W. Starbird.
19th Massachusetts, Capt. Isaac H. Boyd.
20th Massachusetts, Capt. Gustave Magnitzky.
7th Michigan, Capt. George W. La Point.
1st Minnesota (Companies A and B), Capt. James C. Farwell.
59th New York, Lieut. William Ludgate.
152d New York, Lieut. Charles H. Dygert.
184th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Charles Kleckner.
36th Wisconsin, Capt. George A. Fisk.

Second Brigade.

Col. JAMES P. MCIVOR.

155th New York, Capt. Michael Doheny.
164th New York, Capt. Robert Heggart.
170th New York, Capt. Charles Hagan.
182d New York (69th New York National Guard Artillery), Lieut. Col. John Coonan.
8th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. Joseph W. Holmes.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS A. SMYTH.

14th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Samuel A. Moore.
1st Delaware, Capt. Joseph C. Nicholls.
12th New Jersey, Capt. Henry F. Chew.
10th New York (six companies), Lieut. Col. George F. Hopper.
108th New York, Capt. William H. Andrews.
4th Ohio (four companies), Capt. Sewell W. De Witt.
69th Pennsylvania, Maj. Patrick S. Tinen.
106th Pennsylvania (three companies), Lieut. John H. Gallager.
7th West Virginia (five companies), Capt. John Fordyce.

THIRD DIVISION.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. GERSHOM MOTT.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. P. REGIS DE TROBRIAND.

20th Indiana, Maj. William Orr.
17th Maine, Col. George W. West.
40th New York, Maj. Madison M. Cannon.
73d New York (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Michael W. Burns.
86th New York, Lieut. Col. Jacob H. Lansing.
124th New York, Capt. Henry F. Travis.
99th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Peter Fritz, jr.
110th Pennsylvania, Maj. Isaac T. Hamilton.
2d U. S. Sharpshooters, Lieut. Joseph B. Brown.
1st Maine Heavy Artillery, Col. Russell B. Shepherd.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. BYRON R. PIERCE.

5th Michigan, Col. John Pulford.
93d New York, Lieut. Col. Benjamin C. Butler.
57th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William B. Neeper.
84th Pennsylvania, Capt. John R. Ross.
105th Pennsylvania, Capt. James Miller.
141st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Casper W. Tyler.
1st U. S. Sharpshooters (three companies), Capt. Benjamin M. Peck.
1st Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Maj. Nathaniel Shatswell.

Third Brigade.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER.

11th Massachusetts (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Charles C. Rivers.
5th New Jersey (five companies), Capt. Thomas G. Morrow.
7th New Jersey (four companies), Capt. Thomas C. Thompson.
8th New Jersey, Col. John Ramsey.
11th New Jersey, Lieut. Col. John Schoonover.
72d New York (one company), 120th New York, } Lieut. Col. John R. Tappen.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Maj. JOHN G. HAZARD.

Maine Light, 6th Battery (F), Lieut. William H. Rogers.
Massachusetts Light, 10th Battery, Capt. J. Henry Sleeper.
New Hampshire Light, 1st Battery, Capt. Frederick M. Edgell.
1st New Jersey Light, Battery B, Capt. A. Judson Clark.
New Jersey Light, 3d Battery, Capt. Christian Woerner.
1st New York Light, Battery G, Capt. Samuel A. McClellan.
4th New York Heavy, Battery C, Capt. James H. Wood.
4th New York Heavy, Battery L, Lieut. Frank Seymour.
New York Light, 11th Battery, Lieut. James T. Wyatt.
New York Light, 12th Battery, Lieut. George K. Dauchy.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery F, Lieut. John F. Campbell.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery B, Capt. T. Fred. Brown.
4th United States, Battery K, Lieut. John W. Roder.
5th United States, Batteries C and I, Lieut. W. Butler Beck.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. GOUVERNEUR K. WARREN.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN.

First Brigade.

Col. HORATIO G. SICKEL.

185th New York, Col. Edwin S. Jenney.
198th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John B. Murray.

Second Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. EDGAR M. GREGORY.

187th New York (six companies), Lieut. Col. Daniel Myers.
188th New York, Lieut. Col. Isaac Doolittle.
91st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Eli G. Sellers.
155th Pennsylvania, Col. Alfred L. Pearson.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH J. BARTLETT.

20th Maine, Capt. Atherton W. Clark.
32d Massachusetts, Maj. James A. Cunningham.
1st Michigan, Capt. George Lockley.
16th Michigan,* Capt. Charles H. Salter.
83d Pennsylvania (six companies), Capt. Chauncey P. Rogers.
118th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Charles P. Herring.

* Brady's and Jardine's companies Michigan Sharpshooters attached.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROMEYN B. AYRES.

First Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. FREDERICK WINTHROP.

5th New York, Capt. Charles S. Montgomery.
140th New York, Capt. William J. Clark.
146th New York, Capt. Peter Claesgens.
8th United States, Lieut. Samuel P. Ferris.
11th United States, Capt. William G. Edgerton.
12th United States, Capt. Francis Wister.
14th United States, Capt. John McClintock.
15th New York Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. Michael Wiedrich.

Second Brigade.

Col. ANDREW W. DENISON.

1st Maryland, Lieut. Col. John W. Wilson.
4th Maryland, Lieut. Col. Gregory Barrett, jr.
7th Maryland, Maj. Edward M. Mobley.
8th Maryland, Maj. Ernest F. M. Faehtz.

Third Brigade.

Col. ARTHUR H. GRIMSHAW.

3d Delaware, Capt. James E. Baily.
4th Delaware, Capt. Daniel H. Kent.
157th Pennsylvania (four companies), Capt. Edmund T. Tiers.
190th Pennsylvania, } Lieut. Col. Joseph B. Pattee.
191st Pennsylvania, }
210th Pennsylvania, Col. William Sergeant.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL W. CRAWFORD.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD S. BRAGG.

24th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Albert M. Edwards.
143d Pennsylvania, Col. Edmund L. Dana.
149th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John Irvin.
150th Pennsylvania, Maj. George W. Jones.
6th Wisconsin, Capt. Thomas Kerr.
7th Wisconsin, Maj. Hollon Richardson.
Independent Wisconsin (two companies), Capt. Albert T. Morgan.
1st Battalion New York Sharpshooters (three companies), Sergt. Richard C. Boyle.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HENRY BAXTER.

16th Maine, Lieut. Col. Augustus B. Farnham.
39th Massachusetts, Capt. George S. Nelson.
94th New York, Capt. Henry H. Fish.
97th New York, Col. Charles Wheelock.
104th New York, Capt. William W. Graham.
11th Pennsylvania, Col. Richard Coulter.
88th Pennsylvania, Capt. Joseph H. Lawrence.
90th Pennsylvania, Capt. William P. Davis.
107th Pennsylvania, Col. Thomas F. McCoy.

Third Brigade.

Col. J. WILLIAM HOFMANN.

76th New York (six companies), Col. Charles E. Livingston.
95th New York, Lieut. Col. James Creney.
147th New York, Capt. John McKinlock.
56th Pennsylvania, Maj. John T. Jack,
121st Pennsylvania, Capt. Charles Barlow.
142d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Horatio N. Warren.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. CHARLES S. WAINWRIGHT.

Massachusetts Light, 5th Battery (E), Capt. Charles A. Phillips.
Massachusetts Light, 9th Battery, Lieut. Richard S. Milton.
1st New York Light, Battery B, Lieut. Robert E. Rogers.
1st New York Light, Battery C, Capt. David F. Ritchie.
1st New York Light, Battery D, Lieut. James B. Hazelton.
1st New York Light, Battery E, Capt. Angell Matthewson.
1st New York Light, Battery H, Capt. Charles E. Mink.
1st New York Light, Battery L, Capt. George Breck.
New York Light, 15th Battery, Lieut. Andrew R. McMahon.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery B, Lieut. William C. Miller.
4th United States, Battery B, Lieut. James Stewart.
5th United States, Battery D, Lieut. William E. Van Reed.

NINTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. JOHN G. PARKE.

ESCORT.

2d Pennsylvania Cavalry (detachment), Lieut. William W. Netterfield.

PROVOST GUARD.

79th New York (two companies), Capt. Andrew D. Baird.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ORLANDO B. WILLCOX.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. HARTRANFT.

8th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Ralph Ely.
27th Michigan,* Capt. James Dafoe.
109th New York, Maj. George W. Dunn.
51st Pennsylvania, Col. William J. Bolton.
37th Wisconsin, Col. Samuel Harriman.
38th Wisconsin, Col. James Bintliff.
13th Ohio Cavalry (dismounted), Maj. Stephen R. Clark.

Second Brigade.

Lieut. Col. BYRON M. CUTCHEON.

1st Michigan Sharpshooters, Capt. George H. Murdock.
2d Michigan, Lieut. Col. Edwin J. March.
20th Michigan, Capt. Augustus A. Van Cleve.
46th New York, Capt. Adolph Becker.
60th Ohio,† Lieut. Col. Martin P. Avery.
50th Pennsylvania, Capt. George W. Brumm.

Third Brigade.

Col. NAPOLEON B. MCLAUGHLEN.

3d Maryland (four companies), Lieut. Col. Gilbert P. Robinson.
29th Massachusetts, Capt. Willard D. Tripp.
57th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Julius M. Tucker.
59th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Joseph Colburn.
100th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Joseph H. Pentecost.
14th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. George M. Randall.

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* 1st and 2d companies Michigan Sharpshooters attached.
† 9th and 10th companies Ohio Sharpshooters attached.

Acting Engineers.

17th Michigan, Col. Constant Luce.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT B. POTTER.

First Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. JOHN I. CURTIN.

21st Massachusetts, Lieut. William H. Sawyer.
35th Massachusetts, Maj. John W. Hudson.
36th Massachusetts, Maj. Thaddeus L. Barker.
58th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. John C. Whiton.
39th New Jersey, Col. Abram C. Wildrick.
51st New York, Capt. Thomas B. Marsh.
45th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Lafayette W. Lord.
48th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Henry Pleasants.
4th Rhode Island, } Lieut. Col. Percy
7th Rhode Island, } Daniels.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. SIMON G. GRIFFIN.

31st Maine, Lieut. Col. Edward L. Getchell.
32d Maine, Capt. Seth E. Bryant.
2d Maryland, Lieut. Col. Benjamin F. Taylor.
56th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Horatio D. Jarves.
6th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Phin P. Bixby.
9th New Hampshire, Capt. Asa T. Hutchinson.
11th New Hampshire, Capt. George N. Shepperd.
179th New York, Col. William M. Gregg.
186th New York, Col. Bradley Winslow.
17th Vermont, Col. Francis V. Randall.
2d New York Mounted Rifles (dismounted), Col. John Fisk.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD FERRERO.

First Brigade.

Col. DELEVAN BATES.

27th U. S. Colored Troops, Capt. Alexander S. Hempstead.
30th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Arthur J. Smith.
39th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Ozora P. Stearns.
43d U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Horace Bumstead.

Second Brigade.

Col. HENRY G. THOMAS.

19th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Joseph G. Perkins.
23d U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Marshall L. Dempcy.
28th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Charles S. Russell.
29th U. S. Colored Troops (seven companies), Capt. Robert Porter.
31st U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Thomas Wright.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. JOHN C. TIDBALL.

Maine Light, 7th Battery (G), Capt. Adelbert B. Twitchell.
Massachusetts Light, 11th Battery, Capt. Edward J. Jones.
New York Light, 19th Battery, Capt. Edward W. Rogers.
New York Light, 27th Battery, Capt. John B. Eaton.
New York Light, 34th Battery, Capt. Jacob Roemer.
Pennsylvania Light, Battery D, Capt. Samuel H. Rhoads.

CAVALRY.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. DAVID MCM. GREGG.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HENRY E. DAVIES, Jr.

1st Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Samuel E. Chamberlain.
1st New Jersey, Lieut. Col. Hugh H. Janeway.
10th New York, Lieut. Col. William Irvine.
24th New York, Lieut. Col. Walter C. Newberry.
1st Pennsylvania (four companies), Maj. Richard J. Falls.

Second Brigade.

Col. MICHAEL KERWIN.

2d Pennsylvania, Capt. George C. Eckert.
4th Pennsylvania, Capt. Alender P. Duncan.
8th Pennsylvania, Maj. Joseph W. Wistar.
13th Pennsylvania, Maj. George F. McCabe.
16th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John K. Robison.

Third Brigade.

Col. CHARLES H. SMITH.

1st Maine, Lieut. Col. Jonathan P. Cilley.
6th Ohio, Maj. George W. Dickinson.
21st Pennsylvania, Maj. Oliver B. Knowles.

Artillery.

1st United States, Battery I, Lieut. Edwin L. Garvin.
2d United States, Battery A, Lieut. William N. Dennison.

Abstract from returns of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of October, 1864.

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	24	.....	24	25	.....	.....
Signal Corps (Clum)	19	127	146	174	.....	.....
Naval Brigade (Graham)	23	679	967	1,223	.....	.....
First New York Engineers (Serrell)	15	275	471	866	.....	.....
Tenth Army Corps (Terry)	431	13,315	15,890	27,821	.....	54
Eighteenth Army Corps (Weitzel)	415	12,952	15,393	30,231	.....	58
Cavalry Division (Kautz)	72	2,286	2,838	4,924	.....	.....
District of Eastern Virginia (Shepley)	107	3,099	4,399	10,383	178	12
District of North Carolina (Palmer)	212	5,871	8,920	11,681	152	62
Separate Brigade * (Carr)	43	1,076	1,324	1,752	.....	6
Provisional Division (Graham)	208	4,238	5,259	8,853	27	53
Grand total	1,569	43,918	55,631	97,933	357	245
Grand total, according to department return	1,547	43,397	54,830	96,892	357	211

Organization of troops in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, October 31, 1864.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Capt. HENRY R. CLUM.

NAVAL BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES K. GRAHAM.

13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company I, Capt. Warren Hallett.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company K, Lieut. Stewart J. Donnelly.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company L, Capt. Amaya L. Fitch.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company M, Lieut. Frederick S. Paul.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (four companies), Maj. Franz von Schilling.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (detachment), Capt. Joseph W. Sanderson.

ENGINEERS.

1st New York, Col. Edward W. Serrell.

*Embraces troops at Harrison's Landing and Forts Pocahontas and Powhatan.

TENTH ARMY CORPS.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. ALFRED H. TERRY.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ADELBERT AMES.

First Brigade.

Col. ALVIN C. VORIS.

39th Illinois, Lieut. James Hannum.
62d Ohio, Col. Francis B. Pond.
67th Ohio, Capt. Lewis C. Hunt.
85th Pennsylvania (detachment).
199th Pennsylvania, Col. James C. Briscoe.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.

6th Connecticut, Col. Alfred P. Rockwell.
7th Connecticut, Capt. Seager S. Atwell.
3d New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. James F. Randlett.
7th New Hampshire, Col. Joseph C. Abbott.
16th New York Heavy Artillery (seven companies), Maj. Frederick W. Prince.

Third Brigade.

Col. HARRIS M. PLAISTED.

10th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Edwin S. Greeley.
11th Maine, Capt. Simeon H. Merrill.
24th Massachusetts, Capt. Thomas F. Edmands.
100th New York, Col. George B. Dandy.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT S. FOSTER.

First Brigade.

Lieut. Col. ALBERT M. BARNEY.

3d New York, Capt. James H. Reeves.
112th New York, Lieut. Col. John F. Smith.
117th New York, Maj. Egbert Bagg.
142d New York, Capt. Marvin Potter.

Second Brigade.

Col. GALUSHA PENNYPACKER.

47th New York, Capt. Joseph M. McDonald.
48th New York, Lieut. Col. William B. Coan.
76th Pennsylvania, Col. John S. Littell.
97th Pennsylvania, Lieut. John Wainwright.
203d Pennsylvania, Col. John W. Moore.

Third Brigade.

Col. LOUIS BELL.

13th Indiana (three companies), Capt. John H. Lawrence.
9th Maine, Col. G. Frederick Granger.
4th New Hampshire, Capt. Isaac W. Hobbs.
115th New York, Capt. William H. Shaw.
169th New York, Lieut. Col. Alonzo Alden.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM BIRNEY.

First Brigade.

Col. JAMES SHAW, Jr.

7th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Oscar E. Pratt.
9th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Thomas Bayley.
41st U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Henry C. Ward.
127th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. James Givin.

Second Brigade.

Col. ELIAS WRIGHT.

29th Connecticut Colored Troops, Capt. Frederick E. Camp.
8th U. S. Colored Troops, Capt. Frank F. Newland.
45th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Ulysses Doubleday.

Unattached.

116th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. William W. Woodward.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Lieut. Col. RICHARD H. JACKSON.

Connecticut Light, 1st Battery, Capt. James B. Clinton.
New Jersey Light, 4th Battery, Capt. Charles R. Doane.
New Jersey Light, 5th Battery, Lieut. Henry H. Metcalf.
16th New York Heavy (detachment), Lieut. Silas J. Truax.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery E, Lieut. Henry Y. Wildey.
3d Rhode Island Heavy, Battery C, Capt. Martin S. James.
1st United States, Battery D, Lieut. Redmond Tully.
1st United States, Battery M, Capt. Loomis L. Langdon.
3d United States, Battery E, Lieut. John R. Myrick.
4th United States, Battery D, Capt. Frederick M. Follett.

UNATTACHED TROOPS.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry Companies E, F, H, I, K, L, and M, Lieut. Col. Francis Washburn.

EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. GODFREY WEITZEL.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES DEVENS.

First Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JOHN B. RAULSTON.

13th New Hampshire, Maj. Normand Smith.
81st New York, Capt. Edward A. Stimson.
98th New York, Maj. William H. Rogers.
139th New York, Lieut. Col. Thomas Mulcahy.

Second Brigade.

Col. EDGAR M. CULLEN.

5th Maryland, Maj. David B. White.
10th New Hampshire, Lieut. George H. L. Head.
92d New York (detachment), Lieut. George Vaughan.
96th New York, Maj. Henry I. Pierce.
118th New York, Maj. Levi S. Dominy.

Third Brigade.

Col. GUY V. HENRY.

21st Connecticut, Maj. James F. Brown.
40th Massachusetts, Capt. John Pollack.
2d New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Joab N. Patterson.
58th Pennsylvania, Capt. John M. Collins.
188th Pennsylvania, Maj. Francis H. Reichard.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES A. HECKMAN.

First Brigade.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM H. MCNARY.

148th New York, Lieut. Col. John B. Murray.
158th New York, Maj. Silas A. Ilsley.
55th Pennsylvania, Capt. John C. Shearer.

Second Brigade.

Col. EDWARD H. RIPLEY.

8th Maine, Lieut. Col. William M. McArthur.
9th Vermont, Lieut. Col. Valentine G. Barney.

Third Brigade.

Col. HARRISON S. FAIRCHILD.

89th New York, Capt. Frank W. Tremain.
19th Wisconsin, Maj. Samuel K. Vaughan.
2d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Col. William M. McClure.

THIRD DIVISION.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. ALONZO G. DRAPER.

First Brigade.

Lieut. Col. ABIAL G. CHAMBERLAIN.

1st U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Giles H. Rich.
22d U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Ira C. Terry.
37th U. S. Colored Troops, Capt. Charles F. Browne.

Second Brigade.

Lieut. Col. DEXTER E. CLAPP.

5th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. William R. Brazie.
36th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. William H. Hart.
38th U. S. Colored Troops, Capt. John H. Joost.

Third Brigade.

Col. JOHN W. AMES.

4th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Augustus S. Boernstein.
6th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Clark E. Royce.
10th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Edward H. Powell.

Unattached.

2d U. S. Colored Cavalry, Col. George W. Cole.

PROVISIONAL BRIGADE.

Col. EDWARD MARTINDALE.

107th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. William H. Revere, jr.
117th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Lewis G. Brown.
118th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. John C. Moon.

UNATTACHED.

8th Connecticut, Col. John E. Ward.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. ALEXANDER PIPER.

3d New York Light, Battery E, Capt. George E. Ashby.
3d New York Light, Battery H, Capt. William J. Riggs.
3d New York Light, Battery K, Capt. James R. Angel.
3d New York Light, Battery M, Capt. John H. Howell.
New York Light, 7th Battery, Lieut. Martin V. McIntyre.
New York Light, 16th Battery, Capt. Richard H. Lee.
New York Light, 17th Battery, Capt. George T. Anthony.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery A, Capt. William Stitt.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery F, Lieut. Philip S. Chase.
4th United States, Battery L, Lieut. Henry B. Beecher.
5th United States, Battery A, Lieut. Charles P. Muhlenberg.
5th United States, Battery F, Lieut. Leonard Martin.

SEPARATE BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH B. CARR.

38th New Jersey, Col. William J. Sewell.
184th New York (six companies), Lieut. Col. William P. McKinley.
4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Company M, Lieut. Thomas Miles.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, Companies E and I, Capt. Orville L. Howard.
New York Light Artillery, 33d Battery, Capt. Alger M. Wheeler.
16th New York Heavy Artillery (detachment), Capt. Henry C. Thompson.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (detachment), Lieut. Frederick Grill.

PROVISIONAL DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES K. GRAHAM.

PROVISIONAL BRIGADE.

Col. JOSEPH H. POTTER.

11th Connecticut, Capt. Francis T. Brown.
12th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Thomas E. Barker.
200th Pennsylvania, Col. Charles W. Diven.
205th Pennsylvania, Col. Joseph A. Mathews.
207th Pennsylvania, Col. Robert C. Cox.
208th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Mish T. Heintzelman.
209th Pennsylvania, Col. Tobias B. Kaufman.
211th Pennsylvania, Col. James H. Trimble.
9th Vermont (one company), Lieut. Erastus W. Jewett.

SIEGE ARTILLERY.

Col. HENRY L. ABBOT.

11th Connecticut Infantry (detachment), Capt. Morris Kraszynski.
1st Connecticut Heavy,* Col. Henry L. Abbot.
13th New York Heavy, Companies A and H, Capt. William Pendrell.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy, Company M, Capt. Frederick Korte.

ACTING PONTONIERS.

13th Company Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Capt. John Pickering, jr.

CAVALRY DIVISION.

Col. ROBERT M. WEST.

First Brigade.

Col. GEORGE W. LEWIS.

3d New York, Capt. George F. Dern.
5th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Christopher Kleinz.

Second Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL P. SPEAR.

1st District of Columbia (four companies), Capt. Thomas C. Speers.
11th Pennsylvania, Maj. James A. Skelley.

Third Brigade.

Col. ANDREW W. EVANS.

1st Maryland, Lieut. Col. Jacob H. Counselman.
1st New York Mounted Rifles, Maj. Henry Terwilliger.

Artillery.

1st United States, Battery B, Lieut. Robert M. Hall.
Wisconsin Light, 4th Battery, Lieut. Dorman L. Noggle.

*Companies A, B, E, I, K, L, and M, serving with Army of the Potomac

DISTRICT OF EASTERN VIRGINIA.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE F. SHEPLEY.

PORTSMOUTH.

Col. NEWTON B. LORD.

85th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edward Campbell.
4th U. S. Volunteers (detachment), Capt. Samuel G. Sewall.
20th New York Cavalry, Lieut. Col. David M. Evans.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry (five companies—dismounted), Maj. Harvey W. Brown.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, 3d Battalion, Lieut. Col. Augustus B. R. Sprague.
New York Light Artillery, 8th Battery, Lieut. Peter Morton.
13th New York Heavy Artillery (four companies), Col. William A. Howard.
2d U. S. Colored Light Artillery, Battery B, Capt. Francis C. Choate.

NEWPORT NEWS.

Col. JEPTHA GARRARD.

1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, Col. Jeptha Garrard.

FORT MONROE.

Col. JOSEPH ROBERTS.

3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (battalion), Col. Joseph Roberts.

FORT MAGRUDER.

Col. JOSEPH J. MORRISON.

76th Pennsylvania (detachment), Lieut. James J. McCormick.
4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Company G, Capt. Edward T. Bouvé.
20th New York Cavalry, Company H, Lieut. John D. Lee.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, Company A, Capt. Charles W. Dey.
1st New York Mounted Rifles, Company G, Lieut. David Earle.
16th New York Heavy Artillery, Col. Joseph J. Morrison.

EASTERN SHORE.

Capt. ROBERT E. DUVALL.

Purnell Legion (Maryland) Cavalry, Company A, Capt. Robert E. Duvall.
11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company L, Capt. James D. Mahon.
1st Virginia, Loyal, Company A, Lieut. Oliver G. Thomas.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (detachment).

DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. INNIS N. PALMER.

SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE.

Col. DAVID W. WARDROP.

16th Connecticut (two companies), Capt. Joseph H. Barnum.
85th New York (two companies), Maj. Walter Crandall.
101st Pennsylvania (two companies), Col. David B. Morris.
103d Pennsylvania (two companies), Capt. Thomas A. Cochran.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company D, Capt. James Moran.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company K,* Capt. Emelius de Meulen.

* Detachment 24th Battery New York Light Artillery attached.

SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT.

Col. JOSEPH M. MCCHESNEY.

17th Massachusetts (three companies), Lieut. Malcolm Sillars.
27th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Walter G. Bartholomew.
1st North Carolina, Col. Joseph M. McChesney.
2d North Carolina (five companies), Capt. Edmund C. Blount.
9th New Jersey, Col. James Stewart, jr.
23d New York Cavalry (two companies), Capt. Emory Cummings.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company B, Capt. Nehemiah P. Fuller.
3d New York Light Artillery Battery C (section), Lieut. Enoch Jones.

SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HARLAND.

15th Connecticut, Col. Charles L. Upham.
23d Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. John W. Raymond.
25th Massachusetts (four companies), Capt. James Tucker.
1st North Carolina (two companies), Capt. Richard J. Allen.
99th New York (three companies), Capt. Charles E. Cartwright.
132d New York, Lieut. Col. George H. Hitchcock.
12th New York Cavalry, Lieut. Col. Philip G. Vought.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Maj. William A. Amory.
1st North Carolina Colored Heavy Artillery (recruits), Maj. Thorndike C. Jameson.
3d New York Light Artillery (six companies), Col. Charles H. Stewart.
New York Light Artillery, 23d Battery, Capt. Alfred Ransom.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery (ten companies), Lieut. Col. George W. Tew.

WASHINGTON CITY, *November 1, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

It is absolutely necessary there should be at New York an adequate military force to protect the public property and man the forts. Governor Seymour has, under a specious pretext, ordered out his National Guard, under command of a man named Green. No time should be lost in placing at General Dix's command, under loyal, suitable officers, not less than 5,000 or 6,000 troops. Western men should be sent if possible. If General Butler could be spared it would be well to send him.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, *November 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.*
(Received 6.30 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I ordered the brigade of regular troops to New York two days ago. The force sent there from this place will number about 1,200 in all. In addition to this General Dix was directed to retain the Seventh Infantry, which had been previously ordered here. Do you not think this sufficient force?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 1, 1864—7 p. m.*
(Received 10.45 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I have ordered three Delaware regiments to Washington, from which place they can be furloughed. I would like to have the furloughs of these regiments made as short as possible.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *November 1, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

If you will retain the papers sent to you and make out the list with the dates arranged as you think they should be, new appointments will be forwarded. The specific grounds of appointment are always sent in with the nominations, and if confirmed are incorporated into the commission. It has sometimes been done in the original certificate, and if preferred will be inserted in the new certificates. The difficulties pointed out in your telegram escaped my notice, having occurred by inadvertence in the Adjutant-General's Office. Please arrange the staff dates also.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 1, 1864.*
(Received 3 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Have the troops ordered to New York a few days since gone?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 1, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The regulars are to leave to-morrow for City Point. They were ordered yesterday to leave without delay. The transportation arrangements have kept them to-day.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *November 1, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Send the First, Third, and Fourth Regiments of Delaware Volunteers to Washington at once. These regiments will be returned in ten days.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
November 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Scouts returned this morning bringing communication from Richmond agent, which is to the following effect: General Lee has two little boys trained as spies, who give him all manner of information. They are very young and travel along our lines in the character of newsboys. They have given General Lee much valuable information, and traveling under this guise are little apt to be suspected as spies. Their names are Smith. Informant says:

It has been suggested by one in position to advise that, as the western part of the city is unprotected, if the Yankees should send two corps around, starting them at night, say about 12 o'clock, and make at the same time a simultaneous attack all along the line, they could enter and possess Richmond without bloodshed, taking possession of the immediate fortifications and driving out the Confederates. Within Richmond there are neither troops nor fortifications. In order to make this movement successful the troops should enter the town on the Westham plank road.

There is a guard of some 300 or 400 men at Burkeville, on the Danville road; no other guard between Danville and Richmond. There is no guard along the James River Canal. There are torpedoes placed in front of a number of the enemy's works; informant cannot particularize any of them. Danville road brought in yesterday ten car-loads of bacon and one of whisky from Macon, Ga. The morning passenger train runs regularly to Danville from Richmond; the evening train is discontinued on account of the heavy pressure of Government freight. Freight arrives in Richmond every evening at 6 o'clock. On the Central road the passenger train arrives daily at Richmond at 7 o'clock in the evening. Freight trains arrive three times a week—Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays—arriving in Richmond at noon. There are no troops on the Brook pike nor on the west side of the city.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Four deserters from the Sixth Virginia Infantry, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division, have been received to-day. Only two of them are lately from their brigade, and came into the lines of the Fifth Army Corps this morning. They state that their brigade (Weisiger's) is lying just west of the Weldon railroad, its left resting on the railroad near the lead-works, and its right near Battery No. 45, in same position formerly held by Scales' brigade. Wright's brigade is on the left of Weisiger's and east of railroad. They think all of Mahone's division has returned from the right and is lying in nearly the same position as formerly. Their brigade lost heavily in the late fight. Went into action 1,500 strong and lost 600 in killed, wounded, and missing. Harris' brigade preceded Weisiger's on the march, but was not engaged. Two contrabands from Dinwiddie bring information

of little or no force at Stony Creek and small guard at Blue bridge. Chambliss' cavalry brigade is in a demoralized condition and the greater portion of them have mutinied.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The enemy's heavy gun, in what was called the Whitworth battery to the rear of the main line and near the Jerusalem plank road, has disappeared. The enemy has also removed the gun that was visible in fort near the Boisseau house. A working party of about 150 men are engaged in destroying the fort.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

I have directed special examination to ascertain what modifications the enemy are making of their line.

A. A. H[UMPHREYS],
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 1, 1864—2 p. m.

Major FISHER:

I have carefully examined the position about the Boisseau house. The enemy are throwing down an angle facing east, and as all their working party is engaged at that point I think they only mean to strengthen their line. The entire ground covered by the work is in a measure commanded by works to the right and left.

Respectfully,

GEO. J. CLARKE,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION, *November 1, 1864—5 p. m.*

Captain TOWN,
Chief Signal Officer, Second Army Corps:

All quiet this p. m. The following have been intercepted:

9 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Hourly a regiment of cavalry passes going toward enemy's left.

B. C.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

10.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The enemy have thrown a pontoon bridge across the Appomattox during the night. Several trains of wagons went into the woods rear of Gilliam's farm.

J. A. S.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

12 M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment infantry drilling in rear of Battery A.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

12.15 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A train of eleven flats passed going toward enemy's left.

B. C.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

1.15 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One piece of artillery passed on military road rear of Battery 5 going toward enemy's left.

B. C.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

4 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A train just passed rear of Battery 5 going toward City Point and two in opposite direction.

B. C.,
At D.

(Same to A. B.)

STEWART'S FRONT—4.15 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Usual drilling this a. m. rear of Battery A. A small steamer went up and down the river constantly during the day. Dredging-machine still at work. Seventy-five wagons passed up the river and thirty down during the day. No unusual activity observed in camp to-day in our immediate front.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

4.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Two companies of infantry passed open space going toward enemy's front in Chesterfield. Four barges passed Point of Rocks going down the river.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

Very respectfully,

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

CITY POINT, *November 1, 1864.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I feel it my duty to state that my officer at Old Court-House reports that Gregg's cavalry has been withdrawn from his front, and also that Major Tucker has withdrawn all his mounted men, leaving me with no cavalry in front of my infantry pickets. I state this for your information, as the night after the cavalry were withdrawn last week two or three of my posts were driven in. Night before Gregg returned one of the cavalry posts was captured by guerrillas. Does not the general think it necessary to have mounted men in front of my infantry?

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 1, 1864—7 p. m.

Brigadier-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

Respectfully referred to you for report.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
November 2, 1864.

Respectfully returned.
Report forwarded this a. m.*

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 1, 1864.

Col. J. A. MATHEWS,
Commanding Post at Old Court-House:

I have just been over to report what you say about the cavalry to General Grant's headquarters, but they say there is nothing to be done but apply to General Meade, which has been done by the general by telegraph. In the meantime, the general directs that you caution your pickets to use the greatest vigilance, and that their posts be changed after 11 o'clock. The general advises that you borrow some half dozen mounted men from Captain Thomas, to be stationed with your reserves, to bring in any information if trouble arises.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

Since my last report the remainder of the First Division has been relieved from the front line by the Second Division, which now garrisons the inclosed works from Battery 13 to Battery 4. The troops of the First Division are now encamped near the Southall house, occupying the forts on the rear line.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I believe I understood General Meade yesterday to grant permission for me to go to General Butler's line to-day. If not, I would now desire permission to go, and would wish to leave at 9 o'clock.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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* See Gregg to Humphreys, 11.50 a. m., p. 488.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 1, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch just received. The commanding general grants you permission to visit General Butler's line to-day at any time you may desire to. We expect that medals will be given to all soldiers embraced in the first class of the report you recently forwarded.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 1, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel MORGAN:

The major-general commanding has directed me to hasten the completion of the new redoubts at the Avery and Dunn houses, and to make additions for strengthening the front line. You will oblige me by furnishing such details as the engineer officers may call for. I have directed four additional engineer companies to go to the Avery house and camp. The officers and men will take charge of the completion of the works near that place.

N. MICHLER,
Major of Engineers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
OFFICE OF CHIEF COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE,
November 1, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor of calling the attention of the major-general commanding to the excellent behavior and gallantry of Adjt. Prince A. Gatchell and First Lieut. Frank Oakes, and a small detachment from their regiment, the First Maine Heavy Artillery, First Brigade, Third Division, Second Army Corps, who rendered me very great assistance in recapturing and bringing off the two guns during the recent fight at Hatcher's Run. I hope these officers will receive an honorable mention for their good conduct on this occasion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH S. SMITH,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Commissary of Subsistence.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 2D A. C.,
No. 1. } *Near Petersburg, Va., November 1, 1864.*

In compliance with Special Orders, No. 555, headquarters First Division, Second Army Corps, dated October 31, 1864, this brigade is hereby reorganized from this date, and the undersigned assumes command.

Until further orders, the brigade will consist of the following regiments, viz: Sixty-third, Sixty-ninth, and Eighty-eighth Regiments, New York Volunteers. All reports and returns heretofore made by these

regiments to headquarters Consolidated Brigade will hereafter be made to these headquarters. In assuming command of the old Irish Brigade, it gives me much satisfaction to know that, although fearfully decimated by the casualties of a campaign, in which its officers and soldiers endured, with a cheerfulness unsurpassed, unusual dangers, hardships, and privations, they still maintain their old reputation for bravery and patriotism. The record of the brigade has been a bright one; it has proved its fidelity to the Union by its courage and sacrifices on many a battle-field. Never has a regimental color of that organization graced the halls of its enemies. Let the spirit that animates the officers and men of the present be that which shall strive to emulate the deeds of the old brigade.

ROBERT NUGENT,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 76. } HDQRS. 2D DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 1, 1864.

The undersigned temporarily assumes command of the division.

T. W. EGAN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
Chieves' House, Va., November 1, 1864.

Capt. J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division, Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with orders I have the honor to report the garrisons of my command as follows:

Fort Sedgwick is garrisoned by the Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Eighty-sixth New York, and Seventy-third New York Volunteers, numbering in all 830 enlisted men and 30 commissioned officers, under command of Col. E. R. Biles, Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers. Fort Rice is garrisoned by the Seventeenth Maine Volunteers, numbering 12 commissioned officers and 209 enlisted men, under command of Col. G. W. West.

Respectfully submitted.

R. DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
November 1, 1864.

[Capt. J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:]

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report the following dispositions having been made as garrisons, in compliance with instructions from headquarters Third Division, dated October 31, 1864:

Fort Meikel, 150 men from the Seventh New Jersey Volunteers, commanded by Capt. Thomas C. Thompson. Two companies of the Seventh New Jersey Volunteers in the curtains between Forts Meikel and Mor-

ton. Fort Morton, Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, 400 men, commanded by Lieut. Col. John Schoonover. Battery 14, 150 from the Fifth New Jersey Volunteers, commanded by Capt. Thomas G. Morrow. Two companies of the Fifth New Jersey Volunteers camped in the curtains between Fort Morton and Battery 14.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. MCALLISTER,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 1, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front last night and during the day previous. The picket-firing on the right of this corps was very sharp, and continued all through the night.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 1, 1864. (Sent 1.25 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Does there appear to be any new work to take the place of that the enemy are destroying near the Boisseau house, or is any improvement of their line apparent by the removal of the work?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 1, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The Church road station reports that several small squads of the enemy have been drilling without arms inside the works of enemy in front of Ninth Army Corps, indicating new troops. There are no indications of new works to replace the work destroyed near Boisseau's to-day.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 270. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 1, 1864.

I. The sharpshooters belonging to the Second and Third Divisions, who are now serving in the battalion of sharpshooters in the First Division, are relieved and will rejoin their respective commands without delay. Any promise made to these men when the battalion was first organized will be made good to them in their own divisions by their continuance in the duty of sharpshooters.

II. The One hundred and eighty-ninth Regiment New York Volunteers having reported at these headquarters in compliance with Special Orders, No. 294, from headquarters Army of the Potomac, is assigned to the First Division and will report to Brigadier-General Griffin, commanding.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 20. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 5TH ARMY CORPS, *November 1, 1864.*

The regiments of regulars serving in this division having been ordered to duty elsewhere, the general commanding bids them an affectionate farewell. On this, the eve of their departure, he asks them to turn back with him in thoughts to the graves of their heroic comrades who have fallen in battle during the recent campaign, marked with struggles whose gigantic proportions are without a parallel in the world's history, and together on those sacred spots renew their devotion to the flag which they have so proudly borne on many fields.

By command of Brigadier-General Ayres:

C. E. LA MOTTE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 1, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual transpired along our line during the past twenty-four hours. Three deserters from the Eighteenth North Carolina came in this morning; do not know of any movement of troops.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Poplar Spring Church, Va., November 1, 1864.

Maj. P. M. LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: The loss of colors in my division on the 30th of September was as follows: Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Fifty-first New York Volunteers, and Fifty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers (of the First Brigade), one color each (National); the Ninth New Hampshire Volunteers (Second Brigade) one State color. The three first-named regiments were captured almost entire. The Fifty-first New York Volunteers lost 9 officers and over 300 men. One officer and about a dozen men succeeded in escaping from their guards after dark, whilst being taken to the rear. These, as well as a wounded officer of the regiment paroled, and now at Annapolis, Md., report, that on finding themselves cut off they destroyed their colors before surrendering,

rending them into fragments, which the men secreted. The Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers lost 8 officers and 170 enlisted men out of about 200. The colors of this regiment were also torn from the staff and destroyed. Those two veteran regiments, the Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers and the Fifty-first New York Veteran Volunteers, as you are well aware, sustain as high a reputation as any organizations in this corps for uniform valor and good conduct. The Fifty-eighth Massachusetts (not a fully organized regiment) joined the division a day or two before crossing the Rapidan; has lost very heavily and shown great bravery. On the 30th they had but about 100 muskets and lost 9 officers and 83 men. These regiments were lost by holding on too long to their positions; the order for their withdrawal could not be got to them in season. It is not known how the State color of the Ninth New Hampshire Volunteers was lost. It was brought off in safety with what remained of the regiment beyond the point where the enemy's advance was checked. On arriving at the Pegram house, where I reformed and held my line, the color-bearer and color were missing. They must have fallen in the small open field in front of the Pegram house, and on the enemy's advance to that point after our withdrawal next morning fell into their hands. I understand that an effort was made to find them, but the darkness probably prevented its success.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 116. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS, *November 1, 1864.*

1. Brig. Gen. H. E. Davies, commanding First Brigade, will detail from his brigade one company of fifty privates with the proper number of non-commissioned officers and at least one commissioned officer, for the escort of the major-general commanding Second Army Corps. One entire company will be detailed and the additional men required will be selected from another company, so that the smallest number of organizations will be represented in the detail. The detail will report at these headquarters to-morrow at 11 a. m. for inspection.

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By command of Brig. Gen. D. McM. Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, November 1, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Fort Monroe:

I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that arrangements have been made to provide the Surgeon-General with other steamers in place of the Atlantic and Baltic, which last named transports may therefore be applied to the purpose for which you designed them.

JAS. A. HARDIE,
Colonel and Inspector-General, U. S. Army.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Fort Monroe:

I am just in receipt of dispatch from the Secretary of War asking me to send more troops to the city of New York, and if possible to let you go there until after the election. I wish you would start for Washington immediately, and be guided by orders from there in the matter.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Fortress Monroe, Va., November 1, 1864—5.35 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

Dispatch received. Will start in an hour.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIEGE ARTILLERY,
November 1, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I hope you will do me the favor to request General Butler to order my telegraph to be re-established at Broadway. My line of siege batteries is nearly seventeen miles long, and my most important business is often necessarily done by telegraph. The nearest station is now at General Graham's headquarters, at least three miles distant. The economy in orderlies will, I think, nearly balance the cost of the office.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 153. } *Before Richmond, Va., November 1, 1864.*

1. The Two hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Col. H. J. Brady commanding, is hereby assigned to the Third Brigade, First Division, Tenth Army Corps. The commanding officer of the Third Brigade will so encamp this regiment as that every facility shall be afforded for discipline and drill.

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By order of Brig. Gen. A. Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *November 1, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding near Varina:

I leave for headquarters to night. In the meantime all, I think, will be quiet. Lieutenant-Colonel Smith will attend to necessary department matters.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General,

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 30. } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 10TH A. C., *Before Richmond, Va., November 1, 1864.*

The colonel commanding cannot take leave of this command even temporarily without giving expression of his respect and admiration for the brave men whom it has been his good fortune to command.

While life shall last he will remember with pride and extreme satisfaction the brave deeds and heroic conduct of the men of the Third Brigade. The Army of the United States cannot boast of your superiors, and in his humble opinion you stand unrivaled by any troops who have fought in the Army of the James. Your name and fame are as familiar as household words in the camps of this army corps, and among your fellow-citizens at home. Your iron will and firmness have won for yourselves the proud title of the "Iron-clads."

Since this campaign commenced you have participated in more than twenty actions, besides skirmishes almost without number. You have never failed to accomplish what was set down for you to do, and your conduct has always called forth the praises of your commanding officers. It has never occasioned them a single regret. That cowardly cry, "We are flanked," has never been heard in your ranks. When other troops have given way on your right, on your left, you have shown to the enemy that you had no flanks and no rear; that the Third Brigade was all front, and that, too, of steel. How well that front has been maintained in this campaign the long list of your casualties, 1,385 out of 2,693, sadly but gloriously attest.

Fellow-soldiers, of your history it may indeed be said: "The past, at least, is secure." You have won a noble distinction in a noble army, fighting for a noble cause. That your future will be equally successful and brilliant your conduct in the past leaves no room for doubt. Your brave deeds will be remembered in your country's history, and be the proud boast of your descendants.

In conclusion, the colonel commanding desires to repeat for your encouragement the language of Washington to his brave troops, who had won for us the cause we are now contending to maintain. "Let me remind you," said he, "you, the private soldiers, of the dignified part you have performed in this great struggle, for happy, thrice happy, will be accounted hereafter [he] who has contributed, though in the least degree, to the establishment of this gigantic Republic on the broad basis of human freedom and empire." Immortal honors will belong to you as saviors of the Republic, no less than to our fathers as founders of it.

Brave men of the Third Brigade, comrades, please accept this sincere expression of affectionate regard from your late brigade commander, and his best wishes for your future good fortune.

By order of Col. H. M. Plaisted, Eleventh Maine Volunteers, commanding brigade:

_____, *Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *November 2, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON, *Secretary of War:*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 1st instant in relation to the dates to be given the brevet appointments recently conferred by you upon officers of this army, and in ac-

cordance with your wish that I should state what I consider as appropriate dates for the appointments, I respectfully recommend that the appointments of the following-named officers, for whom brevets are asked for distinguished services rendered prior to the adjournment of the last session of Congress, be given the date of August [1], 1864, viz:

To be major-generals by brevet: Brig. Gens. Francis C. Barlow, Alexander S. Webb, S. W. Crawford, Charles Griffin, Romeyn B. Ayres, Robert B. Potter, Orlando B. Willcox, D. McM. Gregg.

To be brigadier-generals by brevet: Cols. James A. Beaver, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers; J. W. Hofmann, Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers; Richard Coulter, Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers; Frederick Winthrop, Fifth New York Veteran Volunteers; C. S. Wainwright, First New York Artillery; William Humphrey, Second Michigan Volunteers; B. C. Christ, Fiftieth Pennsylvania Volunteers; J. K. Sigfried, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers; J. Irvin Gregg, Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry; Charles H. Smith, First Maine Cavalry.

To be colonels by brevet: Lieut. Cols. C. H. Morgan, assistant inspector-general; Francis A. Walker, assistant adjutant-general; Frederick T. Locke, assistant adjutant-general; William A. Throop, First Michigan Veteran Volunteers; H. C. Bankhead, assistant inspector-general; Samuel Wilson, Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry; J. P. Brinton, Second Pennsylvania Cavalry.

To be lieutenant-colonels by brevet: Majs. J. G. Hazard, First Rhode Island Artillery; William G. Mitchell, aide-de-camp to Major-General Hancock.

To be majors by brevet: Capts. H. H. Bingham, One hundred and fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers; S. N. Benjamin, Second U. S. Artillery; H. C. Weir, assistant adjutant-general; James H. Hart, First New Jersey Cavalry.

As the battles in which the following-named officers were especially distinguished, and for their good conduct in which they have been brevetted, have taken place since the adjournment of Congress and since August 1, I recommend that the dates of their appointments remain as now arranged:

To be major-generals by brevet: Brig. Gens. Nelson A. Miles, August 25, 1864; L. Cutler, August 19, 1864.

To be brigadier-generals by brevet: Cols. George N. Macy, Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, August 14, 1864; C. Wheelock, Ninety-seventh New York Volunteers, August 19, 1864; A. W. Denison, Eighth Maryland Volunteers, August 19, 1864.

To be colonels by brevet: Lieut. Col. K. O. Broady, Sixty-first New York Volunteers, August 25, 1864.

To be major by brevet: Capt. F. H. Parke, Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry, August 16, 1864.

I advise that the appointment of Col. H. G. Sickel, One hundred and ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, date October 21, 1864, that being the date fixed upon by the Department. Should you decide to confer upon the officers of my staff the brevets asked for them, I request that the appointments be dated August 1, 1864. If not inconsistent with the usages of the Department, I am sure it would be very gratifying to the officers to have the services for which they are brevetted stated in their letters of appointment.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Four deserters, forwarded from the Ninth Army Corps to-day, represent MacRae's brigade, of Heth's division, and Lane's brigade, of Wilcox's division. None of them were able to locate with any certainty their brigades. Deserter from MacRae thinks his brigade is back in the position it held previous to the late movement. Lane's is on the right of that, and McGowan's next. Can give no other positions. They think the line is now extended much farther to the right than before the late movement. No knowledge of re-enforcements being received or troops sent away.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 2, 1864. (Received 10.15 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in my lines since last report.
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 2, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Can you find me a copy of the Times of the 31st of October? I want to make an official matter of certain correspondence in it.
W. S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I cannot learn that anybody here has received a copy of the New York Times of October 31. The news agent has not yet brought that issue to our headquarters. Perhaps it may come this evening, and, if so, I will see that you get a copy.
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I transmit herewith the Philadelphia Inquirer and New York Times, of October 31, with parts of certain correspondence from this army marked in ink, for the attention of the major-general com-

manding. As myself and my command are misrepresented therein, I call upon the major-general commanding to take such measures as may remedy the injustice done. It is certainly not just that a command that performed its part as well as mine did on the 27th ultimo should suffer at the hands of scribblers who were not on the ground and who were unacquainted with the facts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

Since writing the within I find I have no copy of the Times. I will send one up as soon as I can get it; I have telegraphed for one.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

[Marked extracts from The Philadelphia Inquirer.]

General Hancock moved out on the prescribed route and in proper time, so far as could be judged, to keep in line with Crawford, who had the left of the Fifth Corps. Nevertheless he got too far in advance, and about the middle of the afternoon General Gibbon, whose division was on the right, had his flank exposed in consequence of a gap between him and Crawford. The rebels, favored by their intimate knowledge of the country, and they must be old residents to have acquired any, at 4 o'clock had discovered the gap, and put Mahone's division of Hill's corps into it. At this time General Hancock had reached and had his line of battle formed across the Boydton plank road. At this moment, however, Mahone struck him heavily on his right flank, and he found himself at the same time immediately in front of a strong line of rebel works, heavily defended. The rebel cavalry simultaneously swept around his left and a column of them charged down the telegraph road, which ran parallel with his line of battle, and came into the Boydton plank road in his rear. Under circumstances like these even the splendid skill of Hancock and soldierly ability of Mott and Gibbon could avail but little. The corps was forced back, and for an hour and a half the contest was desperate and the safety of the corps for a moment or two was doubtful.

* * * * * * *

By far the largest proportion of the losses fell to the lot of the Second Corps. General Hancock succeeded in reforming his line by the time he had got abreast of Warren's left, and the rebels withdrawing there the matter ended for a time, the net result being that we lost our precarious hold on Boydton road.

* * * * * * *

On Tuesday night [October 25] the Second Division, Second Corps, Brigadier-General Gibbon, and the Third Division, Major-General Mott, were withdrawn from the trenches they had held so long, and the First Division, General Barlow, left alone upon the line all three divisions had previously occupied. To the First Division, however, was added other troops, and it was left more as a leaven to the mass of raw soldiers than with the intention that it should, unaided, hold that entire line.

* * * * * * *

Upon the Second Corps the rebels have made the only attack they have ventured upon during the day. A gap being between it and the

left of Crawford, Mahone's division made a dash upon our line, and for a few moments created some confusion. Gibbon, however, soon reformed, and again forced back the adventurous Mahone in much the same style in which he had advanced, and in so doing was materially aided by the gallant Crawford and a portion of Gregg's cavalry, which, being on the extreme left, came promptly to the rescue. Our line being again advanced to its former and intended position, just before dark Colonel Denison, with the Second Brigade of Ayres' division, was pushed forward to fill the gap between Crawford and the Second Corps.

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SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 276. } *Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va., November 2, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

6. In accordance with authority received from headquarters Army of the Potomac, Special Orders, No. 165, paragraph 1, from these headquarters, directing the consolidation of the Second and Third Brigades, of the First Division, Second Army Corps, is hereby rescinded, and these brigades will be at once reorganized, under the direction of the division commander, as follows: The Sixty-third, Sixty-ninth, and Eighty-eighth New York Volunteers will form the Second Brigade. Col. R. Nugent, Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, is assigned to the command of this brigade. The Seventh, Thirty-ninth, Fifty-second, Fifty-seventh, One hundred and eleventh, One hundred and twenty-fifth, and One hundred and twenty-sixth New York Volunteers will form the Third Brigade. Bvt. Brig. Gen. George N. Macy is assigned to the command of this brigade.

* * * * * * *

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 2, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: In compliance with communications of this date I have the honor to forward the following statement of the disposition of the forces of this division: The inclosed works are garrisoned by regiments of the Third Brigade, as follows: Fort Stedman, One hundred and eleventh New York, 430 muskets, and 200 muskets from the Seventh New York Infantry, under Major Corning, One hundred and eleventh New York; Fort Blaisdell, Fifty-second New York Volunteers, 86 muskets, and 70 muskets from Seventh New York Infantry, Capt. George Degener, Fifty-second New York; Fort Patrick Kelly, One hundred and twenty-fifth New York, 100 muskets, and One hundred and twenty-sixth New York, 57 muskets, under Capt. J. B. Geddis, One hundred and twenty-sixth New York; Fort Bross, Thirty-ninth New York, 164 muskets, and Fifty-seventh New York, 43 muskets, and

25 muskets from One hundred and twenty-fifth New York, under Capt. D. A. Allen, Thirty-ninth New York. Two hundred men of the Seventh New York are in reserve near the Southall house.

Very respectfully,

N. A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 2, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 10.15 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during yesterday and last night. The movements of the enemy in the vicinity of the Boisseau house were reported yesterday to the major-general commanding. Two deserters from Sixth Virginia, Mahone's brigade, were received and forwarded.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 156. } HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
November 2, 1864.

I. The Ninety-first and One hundred and fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Regiments are hereby transferred from the Second to the Third Brigade and will report to Brigadier-General Bartlett, commanding.

II. The One hundred and eighty-ninth New York Volunteers, having reported in compliance with Special Orders, No. 270, headquarters Fifth Army Corps, is hereby assigned to the Second Brigade and will report to Brevet Brigadier-General Gregory, commanding.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 3D DIV., FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 2, 1864.

All First and Third Division badges will be discarded at once. Until further orders this command will wear the badge of the old First Division, First Army Corps.

By command of Brigadier-General Bragg:

E. A. ANDREWS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 2, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing new. A deserter from Fifty-second North Carolina came in last night.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, City Point:

I send you the report of General Gregg upon your telegram of last evening, by which you will perceive that the statement of the officer commanding at Old Court-House is unfounded. The commanding general directs that you inquire into this matter and learn upon what ground this report was made to you and acquaint these headquarters with the result of your inquiry.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
November 2, 1864—11.50 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that all the main approaches between the Jerusalem plank road and the James River are covered by cavalry. On the telegraph road the cavalry is well out and instructed to give to the commander of infantry at Old Court-House prompt notice of the approach of any force of the enemy in that direction. The cavalry thus picketing is furnished from the troops here and not from the depot near City Point. The commander of the depot has instructions never to detain mounted men, but to send them at once to the division.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 2, 1864.

Major-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

Your dispatch of to-day's date received. The statement of the officer at Old Court-House must be erroneous. Will you please return me the telegram from General Benham?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, November 2, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: You will please proceed immediately to New York and report to Major-General Dix for temporary duty in the Department of the East, and for assignment to the command of the troops in the harbor and city of New York that may be forwarded by General Grant's orders.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *November 2, 1864—1 p. m.*
(Received 4 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I am here in obedience to your orders. Am ordered to report in New York to General Dix. From the state of things, as I can learn them, we should have at least 5,000 good troops and at least two batteries of Napoleons. There is necessity for haste in getting them off. They can easily be spared from the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps. A show of force may prevent trouble. I have directed the quartermaster at Fort Monroe to have ready all transportation there, making use of that provided for Colonel Mulford, except the Atlantic and Baltic. I would desire that the particular brigades or regiments to be sent should be left to the selection of Generals Terry and Weitzel. They will have amply enough to hold their lines after reliable troops are sent to me. Shall leave to-night for New York, Fifth Avenue Hotel.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 2, 1864—5 p. m.*

Major-General TERRY:

Send a good large brigade of infantry, with two batteries of Napoleon guns, to report to General Butler, at New York, at once. If you have Western troops they will be preferable. Answer what troops you send.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *November 2, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: Have the honor to report that the enemy have not been very annoying to-day. Sent two Coehorn shell inside the fort; no one hurt. Has been so rainy and disagreeable to-day that concluded not to try the new shell.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *November 2, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY,
Headquarters Tenth Army Corps,
Near Varina, Va., in the Field, near Richmond:

You will be ordered to send troops to me at New York. Select those which are reliable. Confer with Weitzel. It may be necessary to make composite brigades. Great activity in getting them off will be required. They are to be going to Wilmington.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIG., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 2, 1864.

Capt. L. L. LANGDON,
Commanding Battery M, First U. S. Artillery:

CAPTAIN: The lieutenant-colonel commanding directs that you proceed immediately with the batteries under your command (M, First U. S. Artillery and the Fourth New Jersey) to Bermuda Hundred, Va., and report to Brigadier-General Hawley, U. S. Volunteers. If General Hawley is not at Bermuda Hundred when you arrive you will await his instructions. Capt. C. M. Sampson, assistant quartermaster, has been ordered to have two days' rations of forage ready in wagons at Jones' Landing for both batteries on your arrival at that point.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. M. HALL,
1st Lieut., 1st U. S. Arty., and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—As soon as you arrive at Bermuda Hundred apply to Colonel Dodge, chief quartermaster, for water transportation. Go on board at once, but await sailing orders from General Hawley.

By order of Lieutenant-Colonel Jackson:

R. M. HALL,
1st Lieut., 1st U. S. Arty., and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 2, 1864.

General AMES,
First Division, Tenth Army Corps:

Please get Hawley's brigade ready to march at once with their baggage and three days' rations, cooked or uncooked.

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 154. } *Before Richmond, Va., November 2, 1864.*

During the temporary absence of Col. H. M. Plaisted, commanding Third Brigade, Col. G. B. Dandy, One hundredth New York Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the Third Brigade, First Division, Tenth Army Corps.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 31. } *In the Field, Va., November 2, 1864.*

1. The brigades of this division will be constituted as follows until further orders: First Brigade—Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, Ninth U. S. Colored Troops, Twenty-ninth Connecticut Colored Volunteers, One hundred and sixteenth U. S. Colored Troops. Second Brigade—Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, Forty-first U. S. Colored Troops, Forty-fifth

U. S. Colored Troops, One hundred and twenty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops. The First Brigade will be commanded by the ranking officer. The Second Brigade will be commanded by Col. Elias Wright, Tenth U. S. Colored Troops.

2. Lieut. Col. Henry C. Ward, Twenty-ninth Connecticut Colored Volunteers, is hereby appointed to the command of the Ninth U. S. Colored Troops. He will report for duty to Col. James Shaw, jr., commanding the First Brigade.

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By order of Brig. Gen. William Birney:

JOHN E. STEWART,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, November 2, 1864.

Brigadier-General DEVENS,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send 700 men properly officered, armed, and equipped, and of the character talked of in your conversation with the general commanding this evening, to Deep Bottom, reporting on their arrival there to General Hawley, at Colonel Rand's headquarters. This force will be withdrawn from its present position as quietly and quickly as possible, as they are expected to embark to-morrow morning at 5 o'clock. One of your staff officers will accompany them to Deep Bottom, who will report for instructions at these headquarters at once.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. D. WHEELER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Heckman, calling for 800 men.)

CITY POINT, VA., *November 3, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

The troops sent to New York have been selected by Generals Terry and Weitzel, and they say they have taken the most reliable men of their corps. There are several New York regiments among those going, a thing I wished to avoid, but I suppose they had to be selected to fulfill the other conditions of their orders. Lack of transportation here will delay their reaching New York as soon as I would have liked, but to prevent any further delay than can be avoided I have ordered the troops as far as Fortress Monroe on the river transportation to meet the ocean steamers there, and avoid the necessity of the latter running to this place.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *November 3, 1864.*

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Grant desires that the battalion of the Eighth Delaware Infantry, now at Old Court-House, and numbering about 280 men, be included in the telegram of the 1st in relation to sending Delaware troops home.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 3, 1864—9.10 p. m.

Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Brigadier-General Benham has been instructed by telegraph to order the battalion of the Eighth Delaware Regiment to proceed without delay to Washington.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 3, 1864.*

Colonel BABCOCK,
General Grant's Staff, Fort Monroe, Va.:

Three thousand infantry are now embarking here for Fortress Monroe. Vessels are to arrive here to take them to New York. Dispatch is important. The general desires that you remain at Fort Monroe long enough to see that the troops are transferred and got off without delay. Then go.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *November 3, 1864—7 p. m.*

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS:

Your dispatch received. Colonel Webster has ordered a sufficient number of the sea-going steamers now here to be unloaded at once to be ready for the troops as they arrive. Shall we take these transports, or will others be sent here? I have directed that the transports here be got in readiness. Please let me know when the troops leave for this point. I will let you know when they are all off.

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 3, 1864—9 p. m.*

Colonel BABCOCK,
Fort Monroe:

Provide transportation at Fort Monroe for the infantry. The boats from here are not sea-going and the troops must be transferred. Most

of the infantry left here this evening, and the remainder will go early in the morning. The artillery will get off in the morning on boats that will go through. No provision need be made for it.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 3, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I have the honor herewith to return the letter of Hon. A. W. Randall, dated September 30, 1864, and statement of Lieut. George E. Albee, Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, in relation to an order issued by me concerning the loss of the colors of the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Regiment in battle. Those communications were referred to me by you for a report on the 4th of October. The Eighth New York Artillery, One hundred and sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, and Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, having lost their colors at the battle of Reams' Station, August 25, Major-General Gibbon, commanding the division to which those regiments belong, published a general order (copy herewith marked A*), depriving the regiments named of the right to carry colors, until, by their conduct in battle, they should show themselves competent to protect them. General Gibbon, in doubt as to his authority to issue such an order, referred his order to me through his corps commander, Major-General Hancock, for confirmation. There being nothing in the indorsements of Major-Generals Hancock and Gibbon on the order which led me to suppose that the regiments had been improperly deprived of their colors, but, on the contrary, believing that the approval of the order by me was desired and expected, I issued the general order (copy inclosed marked B*). As my order was based solely on the order published by General Gibbon, and as in his detailed report of the 30th ultimo upon the subject herewith, he does not ask for a revocation or modification of my order, in justice to him I feel constrained to adhere to the order. At the time my order was issued, as my attention was not specially called to any other cases than those mentioned in the order, I overlooked the fact that other regiments had been reported as having lost their colors at Reams' Station. I transmit herewith, for the information of the Department, all the papers that have reached me upon the subject of the order in question. My action in the matter will fully appear from my indorsement of September 29, 1864, upon the letter marked C,† addressed by Major-General Hancock to Lieut. Col. T. S. Bowers, assistant adjutant-general, headquarters Armies of the United States, and my indorsement of October 16, 1864, upon the letter marked D, addressed by Capt. George A. Fisk, commanding Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, to the acting assistant adjutant-general, headquarters First Brigade, Second Division, Second Army Corps.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See Part II, pp. 595, 981.
† See Part II, p. 1071.

[Indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
November 8, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

W. A. NICHOLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., September 30, 1864.

The PRESIDENT,
Washington, D. C.:

SIR: The bearer, of the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, has a case to present to the Department in which gross injustice has been done, through entire misapprehension, to the regiment to which it belongs. The regiment has been disgraced and refused permission to carry colors because, at the battle of Reams' Station, the colors of the regiment were lost. The entire regiment was captured, except about thirty men, after behaving gallantly. The colors were not lost by the regiment, but with the regiment. The brave men belonging to the regiment are disgraced by the order, and a majority of the men are now starving in Richmond. The bearer is a gallant and very intelligent young man, and desires that some act should be done by the Government to relieve the regiment of this undeserved disgrace.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. W. RANDALL.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., *September 30, 1864.*

We, the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, now in Richmond, claim that the order issued from headquarters Army of the Potomac, with reference to loss of colors in battle, is unjust, as far as we are concerned, for the following reasons: With the exception of ten or twelve stragglers and one officer, we were all captured while defending those colors. We had about 150 men in the fight at Reams' Station, August 25, of whom about 125 were taken. About half of the rest were killed and wounded, and the rest got away. These, together with some twenty-five detailed men and some convalescents, returned from hospital a day or two after the fight from what is now known by our name as a regiment, which they have no right to, as the regiment is starving in Richmond. No majority returned from the field of battle without colors; only about one-fourteenth part returned.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE E. ALBEE,
Second Lieutenant Company F, Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Vols.

[First indorsement.]

SEPTEMBER 30, 1864.

I think the bearer of this, Second Lieutenant Albee, deserves a hearing. Will the Secretary of War please accord it to him.

A. LINCOLN.

[Second indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 4, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Meade for report.
To be returned.
By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 7, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the commanding officer Second Corps, for report and recommendation.
By command of Major-General Meade:

S. F. BARSTOW,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
October 8, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the commanding officer, Second Division, for a verification of the facts alleged herein.
By order of Major-General Hancock:

H. H. BINGHAM,
Major, Judge-Advocate, and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 9, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the commanding officer, First Brigade, for report.
By order of Brigadier-General Egan:

A. HENRY EMBLER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
Near Petersburg, Va., October 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: In conformity with directions from the headquarters Army of the Potomac I have the honor to submit the following report of the circumstances attending the order depriving the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers of the right to bear colors:

In the battle of Reams' Station, on the 25th of August last, a number of colors were lost in the Second Corps. Four of these were in my division. I caused reports to be made, and personally investigated the circumstances attending the loss of three of them. I considered that the loss of these colors was not justified by the circumstances, and acting upon what I considered an old established rule, that a regiment

which loses its colors without being able to show that their loss was attended with a glorious and persistent effort to defend them should be deprived of the right to bear others until, by its subsequent conduct in battle, it should earn the right, I published General Orders No. 63, although fully aware of the fact that all the regiments named had fought gallantly during the campaign, and that the colonel of this very regiment was an old and intimate friend and staff officer of my own, who had bravely fallen at its head at Cold Harbor. I considered that a stern sense of duty to myself and the command required the example to be made. Facts developed subsequently, have fully confirmed me in this impression, and it is highly probable that I shall shortly be called upon to perform the pleasing duty of restoring to two of these regiments their colors for gallantry in the recent action near Hatcher's Run. I do not recommend that the order be revoked, or that the colors be restored in any other way. The fourth case in the division was not overlooked, as implied in General Hancock's indorsement, but was omitted at the time, because, from the capture of the commanding officer and most of the regiment, the facts could not be investigated, as distinctly stated in my letter of the 2d instant,* asking that the order might be modified, not countermanded, as stated by General Hancock. I do not desire the order countermanded, being fully convinced of the beneficial effects of it upon my command. When the colors are restored it shall be done in such a way that the men shall feel a pride which shall entirely overshadow any previous disgrace they may have been subjected to.

In closing this report, I trust it will not be out of place to call attention to the irregular manner in which the case comes up. A paper dated at Washington, September 30, 1864, headed, "We, the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, now in Richmond," and signed by George E. Albee, second lieutenant Company F, Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, is made the occasion of an indignant protest by Governor Randall against what he characterizes as a gross act of injustice done through entire misapprehension. I respectfully submit that Governor Randall knows nothing authentic upon a subject which he has characterized in such strong terms, and have no doubt he would consider it very much out of place in me, a soldier, to so characterize any act of his, on the one-sided representations of one of the minor clerks in the Post-Office Department. The act was neither one of gross injustice, nor was it committed under an entire misapprehension. I will not yield to Governor Randall or any one else in the desire to do justice to the heroic devotion of Wisconsin soldiers in this war, and I think there are few officers in the service who have had as good an opportunity to form a judgment on the subject. This regiment was assigned to my command at my special request, on the application of its late gallant commander, Colonel Haskell, a member of the old Sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, which, together with the Second and Seventh from the same State, served so long under my command that I could confidently appeal to the whole of them to state whether, whatever my other defects as a soldier may have been, I was ever grossly unjust to any of them. The papers in the case are herewith returned.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,

Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

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* See p. 40.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 1, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

General Gibbon states that he did not desire the general order countermanded, as implied in my indorsement, but modified. I inclose General Gibbon's letter of October 2,* herewith, from which it will be seen that he certainly desired the order countermanded so far as relates to the other regiments in question, in order that it should not be retrospective with reference to them. This was the point I referred to when I stated that General Gibbon desired the order ccuntermanded. Not having a copy of his letter at hand at the time I made my indorsement, I used the term countermanded as a common-sense expression, referring to the three regiments, and did not recollect whether General Gibbon used the word countermanded, modified, or what. It is not a material point, but a mere question of words. General Gibbon now says he does not desire the order revoked in any other way than by returning the colors to these regiments after having been in action and shown again their ability to carry them. Yet, his very application of October 2 asks that the order be countermanded, revoked, or modified as to these three regiments, because the order is not general in reference to them. General Gibbon also states that he knew the Twentieth Massachusetts had lost their colors at the same time, but could not then investigate the merits of this case. The merits of the case were well known to General Miles, under whose command the regiment was at the time, and who says the regiment surrendered, almost to a man, without doing anything. I had always understood from General Gibbon that it was an accidental omission in leaving out the Twentieth Massachusetts. Nothing since has been done as to this regiment, and it is therefore an exception to the order, as it applies to the other three regiments.

I have thus reviewed the matter, as General Gibbon has apparently contradicted my statements as to these points. I have shown him this indorsement.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 4.†]

C.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
September 29, 1864.

The right of the commanding general of an army to deprive a regiment of its colors, for cause, does not seem to be disputed by Major-General Hancock, nor is its exercise in these particular cases questioned by him on the merits of the case, but he objects because he stipulated that it should only be exercised provided all other regiments in this army having lost colors should be similarly treated. In this I thought proper to differ with Major-General Hancock, and it is respectfully submitted the exercise of this undoubted privilege cannot justify a protest on Major-General Hancock's part against the exercise of a legitimate prerogative on mine. The matter here is simply this: First, have

* See p. 40.

† Indorsement on Hancock to Bowers, for which see Part II, p. 1071.

I, as commanding general of the Army of the Potomac, the right to deprive a regiment of its colors for misconduct or other cause? Second, if this right is granted, was I justified in this instance, where the division commander had considered the case so strong as to have assumed the responsibility himself, to deprive the regiment of them, and where the corps commander in transmitting the division commander's action took no exception to the justice of the act, but expressed the opinion that other guilty parties, to me unknown, should also be punished. As to General Hancock's recapitulation of the heroic deeds of the corps he commands it seems only necessary for me to say that I have never disputed or denied these claims. I do not see their relevancy to the questions here in issue, and therefore submit the matter to the decision of the lieutenant-general commanding without further comment.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure No. 5.]

D.

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY-SIXTH WISCONSIN VOLUNTEERS,
October 10, 1864.

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

SIR: I have the honor to make the following statement of the circumstances under which our national colors were lost at Reams' Station, August 25, 1864:

Our regiment was ordered into position in the cut of the railroad in the rear of and as a support to the main line of our works. When the enemy charged the line our front broke and fell back in confusion. The officer commanding our regiment immediately ordered it forward, but finding ourselves opposed by a superior force, the enemy at the same time advancing on both flanks; the order was given by the officer commanding to fall back, and in so doing we lost 140 men and 8 commissioned officers, who were killed, wounded, or taken prisoners. Our regiment numbered at the commencement of the engagement 175 men and 10 commissioned officers. Consequently, only two officers and thirty men escaped. The bearer of our national colors was killed while nobly doing his duty, and our colors were captured by the enemy. I will here state that every man did his duty, and the entire regiment never behaved better in action, as our losses will attest. These are the circumstances under which our national colors were lost, and believing that the general commanding, when he shall fully understand these facts, will reconsider General Orders, No. 63, by which we were deprived of the privilege of carrying a national stand of colors, we would most respectfully ask that such permission be granted without delay.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEORGE A. FISK,
Captain, Commanding Regiment.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
October 10, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded approved.

J. W. WELCH,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 11, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

T. W. EGAN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 14, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

I cannot better show my views on this subject than by transmitting herewith the correspondence already had in the premises. It will be seen that I objected to the order unless it was applied to the service generally. After the publication of the order of General Meade, in disregard of my indorsement, I appealed to General Grant, asking that the order might be revoked, on the ground that it was retrospective with reference to the three regiments named, and to no others, though other regiments in my own command (a list of which had been furnished General Meade) had lost colors at the same time and regiments of another corps a few days previously. I also judged from the wording of General Meade's order that the names of regiments hereafter losing colors would not be spread before the public in orders, but the right to bear colors denied them simply from the fact of their having lost them. It seems the case was not clearly understood by Lieutenant-General Grant, as he assumes that the order is general in its application, which it clearly is not.* As intimated in General Grant's indorsement, I might have carried the case to the War Department, but meanwhile the total amount of injury had been done by the simultaneous publication of the order in all the daily papers received in this army. This was thought to be very unjust, not only by myself, but generally by my command, but it seemed too late to take any further action. Subsequently, General Gibbon, ascertaining that he had himself omitted from his order one regiment which had lost colors at the same time, and concluding that the order was unjust because retrospective, asked that the order might be countermanded, but as the same request from me had been virtually denied, and not thinking what had been refused me would be granted to one of my division commanders, I returned his application with a copy of the inclosed correspondence. The stigma, having had such general circulation in an official form, cannot be wiped out, though some amends might be made by publishing in the Associated Press an order revoking the one complained of. I have not referred to the particular case of the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, as it is covered by the general principles embracing the other regiments named in the order. I may say, however, that none of them were deprived of their colors on account of worse conduct than other regiments not named, but simply from the fact that they had lost them.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See p. 14.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
October 16, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

The commanding general desires to have from Major-General Gibbon a detailed report of the reasons which led him to regard the three regiments named in his order as unworthy to carry colors. The order of the commanding general was based solely on General Gibbon's order, presented to him simply for confirmation, and rested upon the presumption that it was considered that the cases of the three regiments specified afforded notable instances of bad conduct in action. As the order originated with Major-General Gibbon, the commanding general deems it proper that these papers should be referred to that officer for a minute report before being returned to the War Department.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
October 16, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Major-General Gibbon for a detailed report, as called for in the indorsement from the headquarters Army of the Potomac.*

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 3, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Fog has prevented observations except a short time in middle of day. No changes observed by any station.

TOWN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 3, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

There has been no change on my line since last report. Fatigue parties are at work on the forts near Avery's and Dunn's houses and on corduroy roads.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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* For Gibbon's report, see inclosure No. 3, p. 495.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the following disposition has been made of the troops of this command in the inclosed works on my front:

Three brigades of the First Division—the First, Second, and Fourth—and 200 men of the Seventh New York Volunteers, of the Third Brigade, are in reserve near the Southall house. The Third Brigade is distributed among the works on the rear line as follows:

Fort.	Garrison.	No. of muskets.	Commanding officer.	Remarks.
	FIRST DIVISION.			
Stevenson	111th New York Volunteers.	430	Maj. J. W. Corning, 111th New York Volunteers.	
	7th New York Volunteers.	200		
		630		
Blaisdell	52d New York Volunteers	86	Capt. George Degener, 52d New York Volunteers.	
	7th New York Volunteers.	70		
		156		
Patrick Kelly	125th New York Volunteers.	100	Capt. J. B. Geddis, 126th New York Volunteers.	
	126th New York Volunteers.	57		
		157		
Bross	39th New York Volunteers.	164	Capt. D. A. Allen, 39th New York Volunteers.	
	57th New York Volunteers.	43		
	125th New York Volunteers.	25		
		232		
	SECOND DIVISION.			
Battery No. 13	36th Wisconsin Volunteers.	150	Capt. G. A. Fisk.	The balance of the First Brigade occupy the curtains between the works.
Haskell	19th Maine Volunteers	250	Maj. Isaac W. Starbird.	
Battery No. 11	20th Massachusetts Volunteers.	100	Capt. Gustave Magnitzky.	
Stedman and Battery No. 10.	7th Michigan 19th Massachusetts 152d New York Volunteers. 1st Minnesota Volunteers.	300	Capt. Isaac H. Boyd, 19th Massachusetts Volunteers.	The balance of the Second Brigade in reserve.
Dunn House Battery.	155th New York Volunteers. 170th New York Volunteers.	100	Capt. Michael Doheny	10th New York Volunteers and part of the 14th Connecticut Volunteers in curtains on the right of Fort McGilvery.
Battery No. 9.	69th New York National Guard. 164th New York Volunteers.	150	Lieut. John Coonan	
McGilvery	14th Connecticut 108th New York Volunteers.	300	Capt. W. H. Andrews, 108th New York Volunteers.	12th New Jersey Volunteers in reserve.
Battery No. 4.	7th West Virginia 4th Ohio	150	Capt. John Fordyce.	
Battery No. 5.	69th Pennsylvania Volunteers. 106th Pennsylvania Volunteers.	150	Maj. P. S. Tinen.	

Fort.	Garrison.	No. of muskets.	Commanding officer.	Remarks.
	THIRD DIVISION.			
Sedgwick	99th Pennsylvania Volunteers. 110th Pennsylvania Volunteers. 86th New York Volunteers. 73d New York Volunteers.	830	Col. E. R. Biles, 99th Pennsylvania Volunteers.	
Rice	17th Maine Volunteers	269	Col. G. W. West.	
Battery 24	141st Pennsylvania Volunteers.	150	Lieut. Col. Casper W. Tyler.	
Alexander Hays.	1st Massachusetts Heavy Artillery.	300	Maj. N. Shatswell.	
Davis	5th Michigan 1st U. S. Sharpshooters.	550	Col. John Pulford, 5th Michigan.	
Morton	11th New Jersey Volunteers.	400	Lieut. Col. John Schoonover.	
Meikel	5th New Jersey Volunteers.	150	Capt. David H. Ayers.	
Battery 14	7th New Jersey Volunteers. 5th New Jersey Volunteers.	150	Capt. Thomas G. Morrow.	

Respectfully submitted.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 3, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that yesterday the enemy opened with an 8-inch columbiad from a new position in front of and to the left of Fort Morton. Our batteries soon obtained the range and silenced it. Nothing else of importance has occurred on the line during the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 3, 1864—9 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred in my front during the last twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
November 3, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: Under existing orders from the headquarters Army of the Potomac, the troops comprising the old First Corps were allowed to retain their flags and badges. That organization has been consolidated into the Third Division, Fifth Corps, and the confusion that exists in regard to the present insignia induces me to ask some modification of the order. The different regiments claim the right to wear their old insignia, under the orders of the major-general commanding this army, and the brigade commanders to carry their flags. I believe that it would be injurious to deprive them of this right, but I would urge that something indicative of the organization of which they now form the whole should be ordered. The First Brigade of this division carries the red disc upon its flag; the men wear the same as their badge. The Second Brigade wear the white disc with the Maltese cross quartered upon it; their flag is the same. The Third Brigade carries the same flag as the First, with the blue cross quartering. I would respectfully recommend that the discs of the old First Corps be retained, and that the quartering of the blue cross be authorized as meeting all the indications in the case, or that the badge of the old First Corps be worn on the outer side of the arm, above the elbow, and the blue cross on the hat.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

I approve the suggestions of General Crawford. In addition to the confusion spoken of within, the men of Stone's brigade who served with Griffin wear the red cross, and those of Hofmann's that served with Ayres wear a white one, so that in General Crawford's division now can be found all the badges in the corps. I further remark that the object of these badges was to prevent straggling, by designating where those who attempted it belonged, and were not marks of honor, and as such cannot properly be worn at all. I think it would be well to publish a general order, stating this fact and forbidding the wearing of them anywhere except on the hat, as orders require. I think officers should not wear them on their breasts, as is now the custom. A badge or medal is no mark of honor, unless it is conferred by proper authority in commendation of worthy deeds. It is not only bad taste, but it does away with all the charm belonging to marks of honor for men to assume them on their own volition.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 3, 1864—9 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
New York City:

Troops were ordered from here promptly. Thirty-one hundred infantry went from the Tenth and Eighteenth Corps, selected by the corps

commanders for their reliability, and two batteries as you requested. The brigade of regulars had been previously ordered from the Army of the Potomac. Want of ocean transports has delayed the shipment of these troops, but the advance of them must reach you to morrow.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 3, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send from the Tenth Corps the following-named regiments: Sixth, Seventh, and Tenth Connecticut Volunteers, Third and Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers, Eleventh Maine Volunteers, Thirteenth Indiana Volunteers, One hundred and twelfth New York Volunteers. These are the most trustworthy regiments of the corps. From the Eighteenth Corps will go: Ninety-second, Ninety-sixth, One hundred and eighteenth, Eighty-first, Ninety-eighth, and One hundred and forty-eighth NewYork Volunteers, Ninth Vermont Volunteers. These regiments have been carefully selected by General Weitzel. The batteries are: Battery M, First U. S. Artillery, Fourth New Jersey Battery. Brig. Gen. J. R. Hawley goes in command of the whole force. The infantry will number a little over 3,000 men.

Very respectfully,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 3, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 1.35 p. m.)

General BUTLER,
Washington:

Every effort has been made to carry out your orders; the best troops have been selected and are waiting at the landing ready to embark. Colonel Dodge has, I think, done everything in his power to get transportation as yet without success. There is none here, but he hopes to get it from Fort Monroe.

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 3, 1864.*

Colonel DODGE,
Quartermaster:

All available boats in the harbor will report to you in an hour. On these you will at once embark the infantry ordered east, and send it to Fortress Monroe, where it will be transferred to sea-going vessels that are expected to be waiting there. No vessels have yet been provided for the artillery, but every effort is being made to procure them. Get the infantry off with all possible dispatch.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 155. } *Before Richmond, Va., November 3, 1864.*

I. The detachment Sixteenth New York Artillery, Maj. F. W. Prince commanding, is hereby temporarily assigned to the Third Brigade, and the commanding officer will report to Col. G. B. Dandy commanding, at once.

By order of Brig. Gen. A. Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 381. } *Washington, November 3, 1864.*

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55. Lieut. Col. John B. Howard, quartermaster of the late Third Corps, is, by direction of the President, hereby transferred to the Eighteenth Army Corps as chief quartermaster with his rank of lieutenant-colonel, and, on the completion of his duties as member of the examining board at Saint Louis, Mo., he will report in person to the corps commander for duty.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S, *November 3, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH:

Has General Butler returned? Please answer.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

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HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
November 3, 1864.

General GRAHAM:

General Butler has not returned.

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Deep Bottom, November 3, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER ON BOARD STEAMER:

SIR: You will cause the master of the transport to proceed directly to New York and lie off Castle Garden, permitting no one to go ashore. You will then report to me. In the event of my failing to get there you will follow your brigade commander's orders.

Very respectfully, &c.,

JOS. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

My vessel will carry a flag at the fore, and when we arrive will show at the stern the standard of the Second Brigade, First Division, Tenth Army Corps.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 4, 1864.*

Hon. W. DENNISON,
Postmaster-General, Washington, D. C.:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of date 31st of October, and am glad to be able to inform you that so far as my knowledge extends the army is well and satisfactorily supplied with mails. Our soldiers receive their mail matter with as much regularity and promptness as is possible for armies in the field, and with perhaps as much certainty and security as the most favored portions of the country. When the expedition started from Cairo in February, 1862, against Fort Henry, Col. A. H. Markland voluntarily joined me, and was assigned to the duty of keeping up the mails to and from the army in the field. After the fall of Fort Donelson, Markland was commissioned as special agent of the Post-Office Department, and has been on duty with me or with officers under my command most of the time since. A system of receiving and forwarding mails was adopted, and enlisted men detailed for the purpose of carrying it into effect, which they did, under Colonel Markland's supervision, with signal fidelity and acceptance, and without any expense to the Post-Office Department that I am aware of. The policy I then adopted of prohibiting civilians from having anything to do with the mails within the lines of the army, and of detailing intelligent, reliable, enlisted men for the purpose, my subsequent experience has confirmed. Should there be any necessity for adopting a different policy within the lines of any of the armies under my command, I will comply with your request to inform you of what is desired.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 4, 1864.*

Col. O. E. BABCOCK,
Fort Monroe:

Your last dispatch received. The last boat will be off in a few minutes. All O. K.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *November 4, 1864—6.30 p. m.*
(Received 5th.)

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

All but the Iolas have arrived and will be off by 2 a. m. of the 5th. So rough here we had to send boats off Craney Island to transfer. All the boats with artillery horses have to go to Portsmouth to have stalls put in. This will cause delay. The quartermaster will fit them as soon as possible. I shall go to Baltimore to-morrow evening. General Hawley goes to-night with infantry. Letter by morning mail.

O. E. BABCOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 119. } *City Point, Va., November 4, 1864.*

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II. The chief engineers of the Army of the Potomac and of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina will hereafter forward to Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. G. Barnard, chief engineer of the armies operating against Richmond, at these headquarters, on the last day of each week, a report of the engineering operations during the week, in their respective armies. Maps and plans of all works constructed under their supervision will also be forwarded as soon as they can be prepared. The general commanding the Engineer Brigade and the chief engineers of the several armies operating against Richmond, will render to the chief engineer of the combined armies monthly statements on the 1st of each month of engineer materials received, on hand, and expended, and how applied for the preceding month; also, monthly statements of engineer troops, showing their assignment and duties. All requisitions on the Engineer Department at Washington for engineering materials, and all reports and communications to same, will be sent through the chief engineer at these headquarters, unless in cases requiring great dispatch, when duplicates of such reports or communications will be forwarded, as above directed. This order supersedes paragraph I of Special Orders, No. 91, of date September 12, from these headquarters.*

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By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer with the Fifth Corps reports at 9.15 a. m. a column of the enemy's infantry seen from the Church road station moving westward on the Boydton plank road. It was ten minutes in passing a point a short distance west of the toll-gate. The other stations report no changes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Carothers reports, at 2.30 p. m., three pieces of artillery and caissons moved into fort in vicinity of lead-works. Jordan reports enemy's parties at work on lines to our left of Cemetery Hill. Enemy fired shell and solid shot at ——— house; shot fell in yard.

TOWN.

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* See Part II, p. 795.

AVERY'S HOUSE, *November 4, 1864.*

Major FISHER:

A large working party of the enemy is throwing up works in rear of first line and to the left of school-house; also a new embrasure has appeared in a work in rear of working party.

JANSEN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The following is respectfully forwarded. Nothing further new to-day:

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION—5 p. m.

The fort near the Boisseau property has been nearly all leveled down and there is apparently a heavy breast-work thrown up a few yards in rear of the position it occupied. Several small squads of the enemy's infantry have been noticed drilling without arms. At 4 p. m. two pieces of artillery and three caissons passed large fort near lead-works, moving westward on Boydton plank road.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

CHARLES L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserter from Twenty-sixth North Carolina, MacRae's brigade, came in this a. m. and locates his brigade in the same position that it held previous to the late movement, viz, just in rear of the Hart house. Cannot locate any other brigades, but is certain his brigade is back in same position. Only about fifty conscripts have been received within the last two months in MacRae's brigade. Two deserters from the Forty-eighth Mississippi, Harris' brigade, came into General Mott's front last night; are recent conscripts and have no information. Brigade lying to left of Wilcox's old and across the Jerusalem plank road. But few conscripts in Harris' brigade. A deserter from the Sixtieth Alabama, Gracie's brigade, also one from the Forty-ninth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, came into General Egan's front last evening. Ransom is on extreme left, Gracie next, and Evans about equidistant on both sides of the Burnside mine.

No conscripts have been received in Gracie's and very few in Ransom's brigade. Two mechanics from the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad shops came into our lines from Petersburg last evening. One of them left Richmond yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock on the mail train; the other left Petersburg. From them we learn that four trains a day are run on the Petersburg and Richmond Railroad, carrying passengers and freight. No troops have been moved over the road for a long time, except conscripts and hospital men. They make strong statements of the extent of the conscription, and think Lee will be able to bring as many men into the field as he had a year ago. Nearly all

the conscripts are sent to Chaffin's farm; only very few to Petersburg. The Danville road and South Side Railroad are in constant operation. No movements of troops or information of particular importance is learned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 40. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *November 4, 1864.*

The major-general commanding desires to express his gratification at the conduct of Mott's and Egan's divisions, as well as the artillery of the command and General Gregg's cavalry, in the action of the 27th ultimo, on the Boydton plank road. Newspaper correspondents who were not on the field have misrepresented the affair, speaking of it as a disaster, giving those troops less credit than is accorded them by our enemies. In this action the major-general commanding was pleased with the bearing of the troops, particularly with that of regiments whose conduct was open to censure on a previous occasion. While in pursuit of a definite object, and one distinct from the operations of other parts of the army, the command was attacked on its flank by a large force of the enemy's infantry, and in rear by five brigades of cavalry. The flank attack was speedily repulsed and resulted disastrously to the enemy, who lost nearly a thousand prisoners, several colors, and one gun. The assault in the rear was met by the gallant cavalry under General Gregg, and repulsed. The enemy expected much from this attack and gained nothing. The troops under General Miles forming a part of the force holding the intrenchments at Petersburg are also entitled to great commendation for their services while detached.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 278. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *Deserted House, Before Petersburg, Va., November 4, 1864.*

1. So much of paragraph 6, Special Orders, No. 276, current series, from these headquarters, as assigns Bvt. Brig. Gen. George N. Macy to the command of the Third Brigade, First Division, is hereby rescinded

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By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that, under cover of darkness, the enemy have erected chevaux-de-frise in front of that part of their picket-line opposite Battery 9. With this exception nothing else of any importance has occurred on the line during the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 100. } HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 3D DIV., SECOND CORPS, *November 4, 1864.*

The following disposition will be made of the troops of this brigade upon the receipt of the present order this night: The Twentieth Indiana Volunteers will occupy the breast-works from Battery 22 on the left, connecting with the Second U. S. Sharpshooters on the right near the two-gun battery; the Second U. S. Sharpshooters will occupy the works around the two-gun battery and to the left of it; the First Maine Heavy Artillery will occupy the breast-works and covered way on the right of the Second U. S. Sharpshooters; the One hundred and twenty-fourth New York Volunteers will occupy the curtain on the left of Fort Rice; the Fortieth New York Volunteers will be formed on the road on the right of their present camp (leading to the front). All available men will be placed in the ranks, leaving only a small camp guard in each regimental camp. The men will keep their equipments, &c, on during the night, lying down near their arms, till one hour before daybreak, when the entire command will be placed under arms. Regimental commanders will be held strictly responsible that every man is at his post one hour before daybreak and remain so till further orders.

By command of Brig. Gen. R. de Trobriand:

J. M. LINNARD,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front yesterday or during the night. Three deserters from Twelfth Virginia and two from Thirty-third North Carolina were received and forwarded; also one newsboy, who came into our lines to sell papers.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 273. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *November 4, 1864.*

I. The picket-line west of the Weldon railroad will, until further orders, be picketed as follows: Brigadier-General Ayres will picket from the Weldon railroad one-half the line running westward from that point. The remaining half of the line will be picketed by General Griffin. The tour of duty will be three days; and a field officer of outposts will be detailed in each division.

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By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

Brigadier-General CRAWFORD,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you relieve your picket to-day at 3 p. m. The line west of the Weldon railroad is directed to be relieved at the same hour. General Ayres' pickets will connect with yours, the time to be of three days' duration, and this arrangement to continue until further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours. Three deserters came in during the night—Seventh, Twenty-sixth, and Forty-fourth North Carolina. They report the destruction of rebel ram Albemarle and the recapture of Plymouth.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., CAVALRY CORPS,
[*November 4,*] *1864.*

Capt. A. H. BIBBER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report all quiet. A scouting party of the enemy made their appearance on the plank road between 9 and 10 a. m. this morning, but were driven back very rapidly across the swamp by a small party of the Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry. One man of the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry was wounded, while on post near Davenport Church, by a guerrilla.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. KERWIN,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *November 4, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. RICHARD DELAFIELD,
Chief Engineer U. S. Army:

GENERAL: In accordance with the requirements of the circular of July 29, I have the honor to report that no change has occurred during October in my command or duties, as stated in my last monthly report. Owing to the extension of his lines, however, General Butler has organized a Provisional Division, under command of Brigadier-General Graham, which includes the lines of Bermuda Hundred, where the majority of my troops are stationed, and on October 16 he ordered me to report to this commander instead of directly to himself as here-

tofore. My batteries at Petersburg and on James River have been constantly engaged, although less actively than in September. The following is the amount of the firing:

	Rounds.
100-pounder Parrotts	246
30-pounder Parrotts	697
4½-inch ordnance	1,283
10-inch mortars	486
8-inch mortars	2,202
Coehorn mortars	1,676
Total	6,600

The total weight of iron fired is thus about 139 tons, or at a rate of 4.5 tons daily. I expect detached reports, from which I hope to derive much benefit in fixing the relative excellence of different projectiles. I have continued the collecting of samples of the different kinds of rifle projectiles, and Major Michler has photographed a second shot for me, of which I inclose a copy. The collection itself, consisting of forty-five varieties of rebel and seventeen of U. S. projectiles, I sent on 29th to Major Benton, to be forwarded to Brigadier-General Cullum, for the military museum of the Academy. Since that date I have obtained three more varieties—two Hotchkiss shells, evidently manufactured by the rebels. The artillery captured by Major-General Ord, near Fort Harrison, was turned over to me. It consists of five heavy guns, viz, one 8-inch columbiad; one 32-pounder navy smooth-bore; one 32-pounder army, rifled and banded; one 12-pounder Richmond rifle on siege carriage, weight 6,700 pounds, throwing shot about forty pounds in weight; one 30-pounder rifle, weight 4,700 pounds, date 1864, rebel manufacture; and of eight field guns—all iron—6-pounder smooth; total captured, thirteen guns, also limbers, ammunition, &c. I have placed several new guns in position during the month, having now over 100 ready for firing. I have also been engaged in fortifying Broadway Landing, my depot, which was so much exposed to raids that General Hunt deemed it necessary either to do so or to abandon it. It is naturally a strong position, well flanked by deep ravines. I have connected them over the high land between them by infantry parapet with a good abatis in front, and made a strong redoubt in rear which commands the whole position; length of parapet, about 400 yards; redoubt square, about thirty yards on a side; armament, one siege and two field guns. I estimate that 300 men can hold the place against 2,000 men.

My address remains unchanged—"Bermuda Hundred, via Fort Monroe, Va.." Write name of regiment in full.

Provided the department has them for distribution, I would require a copy of a good map of the Southern States, of the Shenandoah Valley, and of the vicinity of General Sherman's operations.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,

Capt. of Engineers, Col. First Conn. Arty., Comdg. Siege Train.

BROADWAY LANDING, *November 4, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,

Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Army of the James:

I would respectfully request attention to my memorandum of November 1, requesting that my telegraph office be re-established here. I

have already received a complaint of failure in the supply of ammunition of a battery, resulting from its removal. If General Butler is absent I would request that the matter be brought before the actual commander. I cannot regulate the Siege Artillery over a front of fifteen miles without a telegraph, and cannot consent to be held responsible for so doing without one.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

FORT BRADY, VA., *November 4, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the enemy fired much more rapidly at the canal this forenoon than usual, taking advantage of our not paying any attention to them, being busy laying a platform for the gun in the ditch. The recent rain rendered the ground so soft that it was impossible to use the piece with accuracy. As soon as we opened in the afternoon they became very quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: Major-General Terry having, in pursuance of instructions from Major-General Butler, assumed temporary command of the Army of the James, he directs that you assume command of the Tenth Army Corps. You will also assume command of the line of redoubts and interior works from Four-Mile Church to the James River, including Deep Bottom.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieut., Second U. S. Sharpshooters, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

General A. AMES:

General Terry directs me to send the accompanying telegram and to request you to have the corps under arms from reveille until after daylight. Not knowing that it will meet your approval, I have not sent any notice to division commanders, but if you wish me to do so, please notify me by bearer, or if you desire to notify them yourself, the orderly can be at your disposal.

Very respectfully,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you have your troops under arms at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow, and that they remain so until after daylight unless otherwise ordered.

Very respectfully,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., November 4, 1864.

DIVISION COMMANDERS TENTH ARMY CORPS:

By direction of the brevet major-general commanding the Army of the James, the undersigned hereby assumes temporary command of the Tenth Army Corps.

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., November 4, 1864.

DIVISION COMMANDERS TENTH ARMY CORPS:

You will please have your commands in readiness to be placed under arms at a minute's notice during the ensuing twenty-four hours.

By order of Brigadier-General Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 4, 1864.

1. The general commanding having been directed to assume temporary command of the Tenth Army Corps, in pursuance of instructions from headquarters Army of the James, Col. A. C. Voris, Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the temporary command of the First Division, Tenth Army Corps.

2. Brigade commanders will have their commands in readiness to be placed under arms at a moment's notice during the next twenty-four hours.

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By order of Brig. Gen. A. Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., November 4, 1864.

* * * * * * *

3. In accordance with instructions from headquarters Tenth Army Corps the undersigned hereby assumes temporary command of the First Division, Tenth Army Corps.

A. C. VORIS,
Colonel Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 39. } *In the Field, Va., November 4, 1864.*

1. The abatis in front of the division line of intrenchments being in many places broken down on account of the men making a passage-way over the same to the front, it [is] hereby ordered that the brigade commanders at once see that the abatis in front of their respective brigades is repaired at once, closed, and kept so for the future.

2. All persons are prohibited from passing over the abatis at any point. The sally-ports already made are sufficient for all needful purposes and must be used [by] persons necessarily going and returning from the front.

3. Brigade commanders will cause the guard placed on the intrenchments before their camps to be instructed to arrest all persons violating the second paragraph of these orders.

By order of Col. A. C. Voris:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 156. } *Before Richmond, Va., November 4, 1864.*

1. The colonel commanding, having assumed temporary command of the First Division, in pursuance of instructions from division headquarters, Col. F. B. Pond, Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, is hereby assigned to temporary command of the First Brigade, [First Division,] Tenth Army Corps.

By order of Col. A. C. Voris:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 4, 1864.

Col. JAMES SHAW, Jr.,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: You will, without delay, send the Twenty-ninth Connecticut Colored Volunteers to relieve the garrison at the following four redoubts: Four-Mile Church Redoubt, Redoubt of the Ravine, Spring Hill Redoubt, and Signal Hill Redoubt. When ready to march notify these headquarters and guides will be furnished. You will see that there are proper reserves of small-arm ammunition in all the works. The senior officer in each work will command both the artillery and infantry garrisons. You will be careful to relieve the garrisons now in the redoubts with equal number, as nearly as may be, while preserving the unity of your companies.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES B. WEST,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 4, 1864.

Col. ELIAS WRIGHT,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: As soon as the garrisons of redoubts at Four-Mile Church, the Ravine, Spring Hill, and of Signal Hill, composed of men of the

One hundred and twenty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, shall have been relieved by troops from the First Brigade, you will cause them to march to the front and encamp within the limits of your brigade. Please report to these headquarters as soon as this disposition is made, and also what detachments, if any, of the One hundred and twenty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops remain absent at that time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES B. WEST,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

Major-General TERRY:

General Jourdan, commanding Fort Burnham, has this moment reported that he thinks the enemy has mined under his work. He thinks that they have run their mine under the line of their abandoned works, westward of the work. I don't believe it, but have sent my chief engineer to sink one or two overcharged mines by morning, and have given the proper instructions to General Jourdan, if they should explode the mine. If they don't explode it in the morning, I will have the mine destroyed if I get the powder before to-morrow night.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL:

I ought to have informed you that the regiments which have returned will not be needed. The strength of the regiments which have gone, both from your corps and mine, is beyond what was estimated. The 3,000 men have already been sent.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 4, 1864.

Capt. D. D. WHEELER, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Eighteenth Army Corps:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to inform you that Major Pierce, in command of the Ninety-sixth and One hundred and eighteenth [New York] Volunteers, has reported to me in accordance with orders from commanding officer Provisional Division, Army of the James. These two regiments were a part of the force sent from this division on the morning of the 3d instant, under Lieutenant-Colonel Raulston, to report at Deep Bottom to Brigadier-General Hawley. The major informs me that there was no transportation in readiness for his command. I have ordered them to go into camp in reserve with three days' cooked rations on hand in case they may be needed.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHARLES DEVENS,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, *November 5, 1864.*

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington, D. C.:*

At the time General Butler called for 3,000 infantry and two batteries additional to what had already been sent, there was great scarcity of sea-going transportation. The troops, however, were all sent as fast as possible to Fortress Monroe to be transferred to sea vessels as fast as they arrived. The very rough weather of the past few days has produced some delay, but I understand the last of the infantry left Fortress Monroe at 2 a. m. to-day. Owing to the rough sea the vessels having on board the artillery were being detained to build stalls for the horses. As soon as I learned this I ordered them to sea at once, and leave their horses behind. This may make it necessary for General Butler to press into service for a few days such horses as he may require.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *November 5, 1864.*

General MEADE:

In view of the fact that the elections are to be held in the armies on Tuesday next, the enemy may make an attack, expecting to find us unprepared, and to prevent as far as possible the holding of elections. Every precaution should be taken to have all troops so in hand that they can be used if required.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Same to General Terry.)

CITY POINT, VA., *November 5, 1864—1.15 p. m.*

Lieut. Col. O. E. BABCOCK, *Fort Monroe:*

Dispatch received. The artillery must go at once and cannot wait to have stalls put in the vessels. If it is unsafe to carry the horses without, debark them and send the men and guns, leaving the horses at Fort Monroe or Portsmouth.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following communication received from City Point:

Communication received from Richmond last night to the effect that conscripts are arriving very fast. People in Richmond are jubilant over the victories of last Friday week. The acquisitions to Libby Prison have been quite considerable of late in regard to prisoners. Two boys, whom General Lee has trained as spies, are traveling through our army in the guise of newsboys. Their father has a position on General Lee's staff in acknowledgment of their services. Enemy's line extends as far north as Seven Pines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The several stations report all quiet. A camp of considerable size has been established between Cemetery Hill and the lead-works. It was seen for the first time this morning. A train of thirty-two wagons passed toward Petersburg upon the Boydton plank road this p. m.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 384. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, November 5, 1864.

* * * * * * *

29. Leave of absence until April 1, 1865, is hereby granted Brig. Gen. Francis C. Barlow, U. S. Volunteers, on account of ill-health, with permission to visit Europe.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 120. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., November 5, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. Lieut. Col. George W. Bradley, chief quartermaster Tenth Army Corps, is hereby relieved from duty as such, and will report in person without delay to Brig. Gen. Rufus Ingalls, chief quartermaster armies operating against Richmond, for assignment as depot quartermaster at City Point.

III. Capt. H. B. Blood, assistant quartermaster volunteers, is relieved from duty at City Point, and assigned as chief quartermaster of the Tenth Army Corps, Army of the James.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM:

The major-general commanding directs that leaving the artillery and small garrisons in the inclosed works of the line covering City Point, you place your force upon the construction of the redoubts of the line from Prince George Court-House to Old Court-House. If you have not sufficient force to work upon all these at once, begin at the right of the

line after the redoubts, batteries, and slashings are finished. The connecting line of infantry parapets may be commenced. Major Michler is directed to furnish you with the project of this line and its connection with the rear intrenchments resting on the Blackwater Swamp. You will retain a sufficient garrison in the redoubt at Old Court-House.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to acknowledge the telegram of to-day directing me to construct, with the forces under my command, the redoubts and lines planned by Major Michler, to connect Old Court-House redoubts with Prince George Court-House, to "begin at the right of the line," which I suppose means Prince George Court-House. As I presume the commanding general is not fully aware of the force now under my command and the duties I have been called upon to perform in addition to my present lines of defense, which I regret to say I have not yet been able, with all my exertion, to get fully completed, I would respectfully state the duties called for and the forces available. By your telegram of the 24th ultimo I am directed to "prepare the approaches," that is, construct a corduroy road on the north of the Appomattox, opposite the Nelson house (as estimated, from one-quarter to one third of a mile in length). As to this I telegraphed you, asking to be advised if it was to be constructed before I completed the works for the defense of this point. Receiving no reply to this I supposed it was to be constructed as soon as possible after this. In addition to this I, on yesterday, received from Lieutenant-Colonel Bowers the orders of General Grant to construct a stockade of about 3,300 feet in length, to secure the cattle herds in front of the right of the new line here, a work of very great labor, especially in view of the want of the proper timber in this vicinity. Now, as to the forces that I have under my command, I would respectfully refer to my estimate of the minimum necessary for these lines, which was, besides the cannon and artillerists for the smallest garrison of the eight forts, 1,800 men, besides one full regiment north and one regiment south of the railroad, as indispensable to be ready to move to any intermediate point of attack, especially at night, between the redoubts. I had scarcely this minimum of forces, including all my engineer troops, at the time of the movement on the 26th ultimo, and since then the Eighth Delaware Battalion of three companies, that I then designated as garrison of the Old Court-House redoubt, has been ordered away, also the Independent company of New York Volunteers at No. 4 (Fort McKeen), and now the company of Captain Pond, which had been sent on as one of the surplus companies of the Fiftieth New York, is under orders to join the One hundred and eighty-ninth New York Regiment, though as yet suspended, so that now the force I have under my orders that I can calculate upon for all these duties called for, for guards, &c., as I find by sending an aide round to each detachment on the lines, is as per inclosed statement,* only 2,248 effective men. In addition to this I have here at these headquarters as a guard for the public property and pontoon bridges, to receive

* Omitted.

material from Washington and forward them to your headquarters rapidly when required, and as a reserve to act at any time under my orders, a part of the depot repair company of the Fiftieth, of 55 men, and the effective men of two and a fractional company of the Fifteenth, 208—in all 263 men. Of the five companies of the Fifteenth brought here in June, one company now guards the corps pontoon trains. Of the Fiftieth Regiment one company, and fifty men of another, are (and more are called for) now guarding the bridges on the James River at and above Jones' Neck; and one company of surplus recruits for the Fiftieth Regiment is at Broadway Landing with Colonel Abbot.

The Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania I would state (from General Butler's army and possibly subject to recall at any day) now does the picket duty upon and in front of Bailey's Creek, upon which about 125 men are kept for each forty-eight hours, requiring for this duty, with a single relief, some 250 men. The adjutant reports of this regiment 806 men for duty, but the colonel verbally reported to me at the same time 675 only, which would leave 425 men, or just my minimum of garrison for Fort Porter, if he could encamp inside, which he cannot do; and the thirty-three men a day for camp guard every once in the three days reduces his command 100 below my minimum for that garrison and his outlying pickets, or, taking the adjutant's report, would only about supply these two wants. The minimum estimated garrison of the other seven forts is 1,375. The report which my aide brings of the effective men for the garrison of all these forts, where all my recruits are now, including the New Hampshire and Massachusetts battalions and all their camp guards, is 1,313, being all my troops for duty excepting the small number of 263 at these headquarters previously reported in this letter, and out of these I have been called upon to furnish a guard to the Artillery Reserve train of twenty-four men daily or seventy-two men for once in three days, that I might have the trained artillerists for the heavy siege guns. So that it will be seen that I have not now even men enough to give the minimum garrisons to the forts and the minimum of pickets on Bailey's Creek, while I regret to report that the largest body, about one-third of these men, the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Regiment, is very poorly officered and very inefficient, at least for the fatigue duties I have had to call upon them to perform. The colonel, after disobeying my orders to-day about keeping his men on the works, distinctly stated to me that if his men had much more fatigue duty to perform there would have to be much severer punishment inflicted upon them to prevent great insubordination. Since writing the above I have been handed two orders, copies* of which are inclosed, the one an application of Captain Austin to Captain Blood for a "daily detail of 150 colored soldiers," whose places I am directed to supply with the engineer troops until these laborers can be hired by the quartermaster; the other, an application for 100 men from Captain Wiley for the commissary, which I am also directed to furnish. In addition to this I am, and have been for some time past, furnishing a detail of twenty men for General Grant's headquarters, and I may also properly report, as one reason for the defenses not being nearer to completion, that on the 3d instant I received an order to furnish for continuous duty, night and day, or forty-eight hours, 400 men to the commissary to unload vessels. Now, all these details, except the small one which is taken from this depot guard, have had to, and will have to, leave the forts and the duty there and march down and back the two or three miles from the works, unless they again pitch their tents at this post and thus vacate the redoubts.

* Omitted.

And, in addition to the above, I understand from General Patrick to-day that it was proposed to him to furnish details of engineer troops, a battalion or some hundreds at least, to aid him in the performance of his duties. In view of all these circumstances, which I deem it my duty to lay before the commanding general, I would respectfully ask which, if any, of these duties he would wish to have dispensed with or which should take precedence. I would, however, respectfully submit that with the other duties previously ordered I do not see how the force now under my command can do anything effectively toward the construction of the works between Old Court-House and Prince George Court-House.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 5, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change in my lines since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 5, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I send you copy of communication from the Secret Service Department. The statement is substantially repeated from several sources, and as there may be something in it, the commanding general suggests whether it would not be better to dispose the reserve division so that the intrenchments could be rapidly re-enforced at all points. Very small garrisons might be left in the rear line of works, merely enough to keep them in order and small parties of the enemy out. He would propose, then, that a brigade should be established in rear of Fort Stedman, two brigades in rear of Fort Rice, or between that and Fort Morton (one of these to furnish the small garrisons for the forts in rear line), and one brigade in rear of Fort Davis.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 5, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: R. A. Johnson, refugee from Richmond, came into General Parke's lines this a. m. He left Richmond last Tuesday; came to Petersburg, and left there last night. His information amounts to the following: General Early is being court-martialed in Richmond for unknown charges concerning the late Valley fights. General Johnson

takes his command. General Longstreet is commanding in Valley. General Lee moved his headquarters to Petersburg day before yesterday. General Ewell in command of the defenses of Richmond.

Important: Informant states that he heard Judge Ould, commissioner for exchange of prisoners, say that he had been to Petersburg last week and visited the fortifications with General Lee; that a mine was being constructed under one of our batteries (informant thinks Battery No. 5, nearest Reservoir Hill, one of the forts taken in our first advance on Petersburg). Ould did not locate it there, but informant formed that opinion from his description of it. It was nearly completed. No movement of troops or any particular news of a military character.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

P. S.—Informant is positive about the mine, and attaches considerable importance to the story of Judge Ould.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 5, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Your confidential dispatch is received, and the disposition you suggest will be made. Have any orders been given to the engineers on the subject?

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 5, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Major Michler was informed of the information brought in. I will see him about it again as soon as he returns.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 5, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I think a little change in the disposition you suggest would be desirable. Instead of two brigades in rear of Fort Rice I would suggest one in rear of Fort Morton, where the ground is favorable, and the same reserve available for Haskell, and the other brigade in rear of Rice, this last to furnish garrisons for the rear line. With the second line at Fort Sedgwick occupied Fort Rice could be readily re-enforced.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 5, 1864. (Sent 5.08 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Corps:*

The commanding general requests me to say certainly the disposition you mention would be the best. The suggestion he made was only intended to be general.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
November 5, 1864.

The following disposition of troops will be made to-night:

Generals Mott and Gibbon will place most of their reserves along the curtains connecting the inclosed works, leaving out small reserves only for special purposes.

General Mott will occupy the line between Forts Davis and Sedgwick and the rear line at the latter work.

The chief of artillery will place a section of guns in Battery 22, and one in the second line at Fort Sedgwick.

General Miles will place one brigade of his division in rear of Fort Stedman, in the ravine, one in rear of Fort Morton, and one near the Chieves house, and not far from Fort Davis.

The remaining brigade will furnish garrisons of 100 men each for Forts Bross, Patrick Kelly, and Blaisdell, and 200 men for Fort Stevenson.

The remainder of this brigade will be placed as a reserve to that part of the line near Fort Rice.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 279. HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va.,
November 5, 1864.

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5. Under instructions from the headquarters Army of the Potomac of this date leave of absence is granted to the following-named officers: Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Smyth, U. S. Volunteers, for ten days; Surg. A. N. Dougherty, medical director Second Army Corps, for ten days.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 5, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that yesterday the enemy opened from a fort on the hill in front of Fort Stedman with a 20-pounder gun

on a working party to the left of Fort McGilvery. During the fire the Eleventh New York Battery had one man killed. Nothing further of importance has occurred on the line during the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND CORPS,
No. 185. } *November 5, 1864.*

I. The commanding officer of Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, will, on receipt of this order, withdraw his batteries from Fort Blaisdell and move them to near these headquarters, where he will report in person for further orders.

II. The commanding officer of the Tenth Massachusetts Battery will, on receipt of this order, place one section of his guns in Fort Blaisdell, relieving Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery.

III. The commanding officers of Battery F, First Pennsylvania Artillery, and Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, will have their commands hitched and harnessed at 5 a. m. every morning until further orders.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 560. } *November 5, 1864.*

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III. The Twenty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers (Major Fleming) will report to Col. Robert Nugent, commanding Second Brigade, at once.

By command of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. W. EGAN,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: The major-general desires to invite your attention to the evil effect likely to result were the action of the Seventh Michigan in tearing up its colors in battle to be looked upon as justifiable, or as furnishing a precedent for other regiments. The motive which prompted the destruction of the colors was doubtless a good one, but how much more glorious would it have been had this regiment escaped from its perilous position with its colors at its head, or lost them to the enemy after a gallant and desperate resistance. Colors lost under such circumstances would be returned to the regiment with all honor. Now, the regiment, by its own act, has deprived itself of colors, for it has destroyed them when it escaped itself. The general does not desire to

review officially your action in the premises, but fully aware that the course pursued by the Seventh Michigan is liable to great abuse, he is unwilling it should be taken as a precedent in the command. The main object in his late order depriving certain regiments of the right to bear colors, was not so much to prevent loss of colors as to impress upon the command that to be worthy to carry them they should be willing and anxious to fight for them. Please to communicate this letter to the commander of the Seventh Michigan and such others as you may deem necessary.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. HENRY EMBLER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

The views of the division commander are approved. The system of destroying colors in times of danger, or of sending them from the field on such occasions, is not calculated to cause the troops who remain to fight the better. Stragglers seeing colors carried to the rear are apt to make it an excuse to follow them, and better men seeing their colors sent off have a right to think that their commander has considered it a hopeless task longer to defend them. Far better to lose colors to the enemy bravely fighting for them than to send them to the rear when danger arises. The object of a color is to form a rallying point for the men in time of danger.

Copy respectfully furnished division commanders.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front yesterday and last night. Nothing unusual transpired.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 5, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours. A refugee from Richmond came into our lines at daylight this morning; seems to be quite a knowing fellow. Says Lee has moved his headquarters to Petersburg; says he overheard Ould speak of a mine nearly completed; thinks it was aimed at Battery No. 5. What disposition shall be made of this fellow?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY CORPS,
November 5, 1864—12 m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that no movements of the enemy are observed in front of the picket-line of this division. About Davenport Church, and between that point and James River, guerrillas are constantly prowling about. Patrols and scouting parties from my command are occasionally fired upon by guerrillas concealed in the thickets of woods. Yesterday a small scouting party of the enemy ventured up the plank road, but were driven across Warwick Swamp by a party of the Fourth Pennsylvania, on duty near Gary's Church. The officer commanding a regiment on picket toward James River reports that he has reason to believe that at least one family, living outside and near our lines, is engaged in aiding the escape of deserters from our army. I have directed such measures to be taken as will secure positive proof of this if it is so.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Vols., Comdg. Second Division Cavalry.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 5, 1864.

Major-General TERRY:

Signal officer at Cobb's Hill reports thirteen freight-cars heavily loaded with troops going toward Richmond. Report from tower on James River that enemy are building three more batteries to their left of those above Cox's Ferry, on north side of river.

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *November 5, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: Have the honor to report that the rebels, having been drowned out of their Coehorn battery in the swamp by the recent rain (perhaps the 4.5-inch gun helped them along), removed their pieces during last night to the old position behind the point of woods. This morning they opened with a vengeance, but gradually "tapered down to a fine point." Shall not have much difficulty with them where they are, I think. The infantry colonel came rushing into the fort to-day, and reported a new work of the rebels which he was sure would cause us much trouble. It proved to be the very battery we were firing at.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. —. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., November 5, 1864.*

Col. E. Wright, Tenth U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby relieved from duty with Third Division, Tenth Army Corps, and will report to Brig. Gen. Charles J. Paine, commanding Third Division, Eighteenth Army Corps, for assignment.

By command of Brevet Major-General Terry:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., November 5, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

COLONEL: One of the largest and best brigades of this division is now disabled and rendered unreliable and of uncertain value by the want of a competent commanding officer of suitable rank, Colonel Holman, its commander, and Colonel Kiddoo, commanding one of its regiments, having both been wounded on October 27, and the colonel of the remaining regiment of the brigade having been wounded before Petersburg. There are six other infantry colonels in the division. Of these, two are commanding brigades, two are absent (wounded September 29), one is recently appointed and absent sick, and the last one, Colonel Wright, Tenth U. S. Colored Troops, I now wish assigned to the command of the First Brigade of this division, at present commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Chamberlain, Thirty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops. I once before placed Colonel Wright in command of a brigade and in very difficult circumstances. His good conduct and capacity were remarkable. By Special Order 309, department headquarters, October 24, 1864, Colonel Wright was ordered to report to the commanding officer Third Division, Tenth Army Corps, for assignment to duty. I presume he is commanding a brigade in that division, though I have no official or other information, and it may be that to remove him from that brigade would be a very great injury to it. But I am sure that it would be no greater injury to that brigade than mine is now suffering, and justice would seem to require that if either must suffer it should not be mine, for Colonel Wright belongs to my division and to the Eighteenth Corps. I beg to call particular attention to the fact that the engagement in which Colonels Holman and Kiddoo were wounded was subsequent to the order detailing Colonel Wright as above. While it would give me the greatest pleasure to spare a good regimental commander to command a brigade in another division, I do not deem it just for me to spare an officer for only an equal command elsewhere, especially when my own command is suffering so greatly for him. I respectfully ask of the major-general commanding the Department of Virginia and North Carolina that Col. E. Wright, Tenth U. S. Colored Troops, now on duty in the Third Division, Tenth Corps, be ordered to report to me for duty.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 6, 1864—2 p. m.*
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

Last night, a little after 11 o'clock, the enemy attacked the picket-line in front of Gibbon's and Mott's divisions, of Second Corps, and, carried about forty of the pits occupied by pickets. Stubborn fighting was kept up from that time until near daylight, resulting in the enemy being driven to their own lines with considerable slaughter. Besides the dead and wounded carried back by the enemy, quite a number are still left in the picket trenches and vicinity. Forty-two prisoners were also captured and some intrenching tools. General Gibbon's loss is estimated at fifteen or twenty captured. General Mott says his loss will be small, but does not yet give numbers.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864—12.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Hancock reports that a few minutes before 12 a sharp musketry fire broke out near Fort Morton, and that the firing is apparently picket-firing, accompanied by the opening of the mortar batteries. The firing has now nearly ceased.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864—2 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Following just received from General Hancock:

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864—1 a. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

One of my staff has returned from Fort Haskell. As near as he could ascertain the enemy advanced a strong skirmish line in front of that fort, but they did not accomplish anything. I know of no damage done thus far.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Major-General Hancock reports his picket-line was attacked last night at 11.40, both in Gibbon's and Mott's fronts. On the former, some eight men were captured, and on Mott's line the enemy succeeded in capturing some twenty posts and about 100 yards of the line, which he held till just before daylight, when he was repulsed with heavy loss in killed and wounded, leaving one officer and forty men of the Holcombe Legion in our hands. The rest of the lines were quiet during the day and night.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to Generals Warren and Parke.)

CITY POINT, *November 6, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

By General Hancock's report of last night's attack, am I to understand that the enemy carried 100 yards of the main line held by Mott's division and all the pickets of twenty posts, or only 100 yards of the picket-line itself and about twenty pickets? I would also inquire whether the officer and forty men left in our hands were the killed and wounded, or if they are prisoners of war exclusive of the enemy's loss in killed and wounded.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

In reply to your dispatch I forward Hancock's report. I understand the enemy took 100 yards of Mott's picket-line, capturing twenty men; that Mott recaptured the picket-line, killing and wounding a number of the enemy and capturing one officer and forty men, exclusive of the killed and wounded. Hancock, as soon as fully advised, will make a more detailed report.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

The enemy attacked my picket-line about 11 p. m. in at least two points, capturing seven or eight posts from General Gibbon and fifteen or twenty men, and about 100 yards of Mott's line in front of Fort Morton. I am not able to give any very authentic report of the matter, as I have not received any full reports. I forward, however, about forty men and one officer from the Holcombe Legion, who state that they were in the party that attacked Mott and held his line until an hour before daylight, when the line was retaken with considerable loss to the enemy in killed and wounded.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *November 6, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I think it will be advisable to have General Gregg make a pretty strong reconnaissance to-morrow well down the railroad to ascertain if any movement toward our rear is in contemplation. I feel pretty confident an effort will be made at some point Monday night or Tuesday.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864—6.15 p. m. (Sent 6.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch received, and orders in accordance therewith sent to General Gregg.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The following deserters received last evening and this a. m.: One from Forty-eighth Mississippi, Harris' brigade, Mahone's division, states that his brigade is lying to the enemy's left of the Jerusalem plank road, adjoining Finegan's on the right, the plank road dividing the two brigades. All of Mahone's division in line except Wilcox's old brigade, which is lying in reserve to the rear of the division. No conscripts in this brigade. Regiments less than 200 each for duty. Deserter from Fourth South Carolina Cavalry, Butler's old brigade, came in last evening. Left his brigade five miles below Burgess' Mill, on the new military road to Stony Creek. Young's brigade was encamped about a mile to the eastward of Butler. A great many dismounted men in Butler's brigade. Regimental rolls bear 500 men, only about 200 being mounted. Two conscript deserters from the Thirteenth North Carolina came in this a. m. at daylight; left their brigade (Scales') between Mahone's old brigade and Battery 45; are unintelligent. Considerable number of conscripts coming in to their brigade. One hundred and ninety men in their regiment (including all conscripts) for duty. Thirty-eighth North Carolina largest regiment in brigade; over 300 for duty. Forty prisoners of war, all from the Holcombe Legion, including one second lieutenant, forwarded from the Third Division, Third Brigade, Second Army Corps, taken last evening in front of the Burnside mine. From them it is learned that day before yesterday a deserter from our lines gave information that our forces were moving to our right, and had left only a skirmish line at the point they charged. The order for a charge was given yesterday evening and the time set at 12 midnight. Two hundred and fifty men of the Holcombe Legion, Evans' South Carolina brigade, of Johnson's division, comprised the attacking party. They supposed there was to be a general advance along their entire line. Confess to have met with considerable loss.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
November 6, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

At 4 p. m. five pieces of artillery and same number of caissons, followed by one wagon and one ambulance, passed large fort near leadworks, moving on Boydton plank road and in direction of Petersburg. A few wagons seen moving in both directions on Boydton plank road.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD,
November 6, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

At 3.30 p. m. a carriage, followed by twenty mounted men, came from direction of Petersburg and disappeared in camps west of Weldon railroad; about one brigade was in line in camp west of railroad at sundown.

A. K. C[AROTHERS,]
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

I am directed to say that the instructions sent you yesterday were based upon the supposition that the intrenchments covering City Point were finished, as well as the approaches to the site of proposed bridge. Instructions from General Grant will, of course, take precedence of all others, and you will complete the approaches to bridge, &c. As soon as you have any force available for the line from Prince George Court-House to Old Court-House you will begin the construction of it and in the manner indicated.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864. (Sent 12.05 p. m.)

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

As soon as you have disposed your command in accordance with the instructions sent you yesterday please report the distribution of it for the information of the commanding general.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, *November 6, 1864.*

General A. A. HUMPHREYS:

I shall, as early as practicable, make the distribution of my men for the work called for, but that I may do this judiciously it is indispensable that I should know the number and position of the redoubts planned by Major Michler, of which I know nothing as yet. My general plan, as far as I can now form it, is to encamp, as far as I have them, a battalion of infantry, with one company of engineer recruits (of only the same experience, in fact), at each of the redoubts planned, and to retain two of the five companies of engineer recruits, with perhaps one of the battalions of infantry, to garrison and complete my present lines of defense. If I knew that the commanding general did not consider the

infantry picket on Bailey's Creek as necessary, I should, of course, have more men. Colonel Mathews reports to me that on repeated inquiries every cavalry picket officer denies that he has any orders to report anything to my command. I hope to see Lieutenant-Colonel Morgan, now absent, on Tuesday, to arrange for far less work than 1,100 yards of stockade for the cattle.

H. W. BENHAM.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

I have received your communication by the hands of Captain Chester. It is not necessary to have more than twenty or thirty men in each redoubt, excepting that at Old Court-House, which should have a reduced garrison. The reserve regiments north and south of the railroad should also be dispensed with. If you have merely men enough to construct the redoubt at Prince George Court-House, encamp them there until the work is finished. If you have enough for two redoubts encamp the men accordingly. It would be a waste of time to march them daily from their present camps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864—9.50 a. m.

General WILLIAMS:

The following just received:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that the picket-line in front of Fort Morton is re-established. The enemy charged at 11.15 p. m. with a line of battle very vigorously. The left of the part charged gave way and the enemy took possession of about forty pits. Some of them were immediately retaken by our men, driving the enemy to our right. The fighting for the balance was a hand-to-hand struggle, lasting until near daylight this morning. The fighting party was re-enforced three times and the fire very destructive to the enemy. Besides a great number of the enemy's killed and wounded carried back by them, quite a number of the dead are in our trenches and vicinity. We captured one lieutenant and forty-one men prisoners; also a number of intrenching tools. My loss is light. I think they could have taken but a few prisoners from us, amongst the number the adjutant of the Eleventh Massachusetts Battalion. The officers and men engaged in this affair behaved splendidly, and great credit is due to Colonel McAllister, commanding brigade, who gave it his personal attention.

I am, major, respectfully, &c.,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Forwarded to General Grant at 12.50 p. m.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I am and have been for some time picketing nearly a brigade front of the Fifth Corps, between Battery 24 and Fort Howard. I request that these pickets may be relieved, that I may picket only my own front. They are in such a position that I cannot readily support them.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

Captain Paine will be sent to establish the point of junction of the picket-lines of the Second and Fifth Corps. It should be northwest from Battery 24. Please have your officers instructed accordingly.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Mott's loss last night was four killed and fifteen wounded and one officer and two enlisted men missing. Twelve dead bodies of the enemy are lying near the picket-line. The enemy's intrenching tools and many of their arms are in our possession. No attempt was made to recapture the posts taken from Gibbon, as they were the only ones across the pond, and ought to have been abandoned before and the line placed where it now is.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

In view of the fact that a general election is to be held in the army on Tuesday next, the 8th instant, it is considered probable that the enemy may attack with the hope of finding us unprepared and of breaking up the election. Corps commanders will, therefore, see that the strictest vigilance is maintained in their commands, and that their troops are prepared for any emergency that may occur.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Warren, Parke, and Gregg.)

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 280. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va., November 6, 1864.*

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2. During the temporary absence of Surg. A. N. Dougherty, Surg. J. McNulty, surgeon-in-chief of the First Division, will assume the duties of medical director of the corps.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that last night about 11 p. m. the enemy attacked our picket-line between Fort Hays and Fort Morton. About the same time our batteries opened along the line, and a heavy cannonading continued until near daylight, with what result as yet has not been ascertained. The enemy are erecting a new fort to our right of Fort Morton, about 2,200 yards distant. Twelfth New York Battery report two men slightly wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Capt. A. HENRY EMBLER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to forward herewith a map* of the position in my front, showing the old picket-line captured November 5, the new line, the rebel picket-line and fortifications, with their dam and the submerged ground. The high ground now fortified by the enemy has always been held by them, and their assault has gained them no new position of value for offensive purposes. They are still hard at work on their new rifle-pits.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. W. EGAN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the curtains between the inclosed works along this line were properly re-enforced last night. Brigadier-General De Trobriand, commanding First Brigade, placed one regiment between Fort Davis and Fort Sedgwick. No other change in line since my last report.

I respectfully remain, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division, Second Corps:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I was highly gratified to hear of the brave conduct of your troops this morning, and of the ability and determination displayed by Colonel McAllister, commanding brigade, in retaking the picket-line wrested from our pickets last night.

I am, very truly, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Capt. J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division, Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that after inspecting myself thoroughly the amount and location of repairs to be done to the covered ways, I have ordered a sufficient detail to work at it to-morrow morning, in compliance with orders from division headquarters. I will keep the detail at work until the proper repairs are made, also to the breast-works between Fort Davis and Battery 22, as well as the two-gun battery in the rear of Fort Sedgwick. A guard of six men and a corporal is already posted in these works to prevent any further damage being done in future.

Respectfully submitted.

DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Capt. J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that our picket-line was attacked by a charge and a yell. A portion of the line gave way, but is now re-established again.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. McALLISTER,
Colonel Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my own front yesterday and last night. About 11.40 p. m. a very heavy fire of musketry opened on my right, seeming to be in the vicinity of Fort Sedgwick. Rapid artillery firing followed immediately after, and continued for thirty or forty minutes. Nothing has been heard here of the result of the firing.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864—4.30 p. m.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have just returned from examining the picket-line. I think that General Hancock's line extends perhaps 100 yards west of the northwest line from Battery No. 24, but the junction is at a corner of a field, which made a very good natural point to indicate as such in instructions. In Battery No. 24 I have a section of Hart's battery; the infantry there are Second Corps troops, One hundred and forty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, I believe.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual along our lines. Two deserters from Seventh and Eighteenth North Carolina came in last eve. What was the occasion and result of the heavy firing at midnight?*

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864.

Major-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The major-general commanding directs that you make a strong reconnaissance to-morrow well down in the direction of the Weldon railroad, to ascertain if any movement toward our rear is going on or about being made. You will take with you all your available force, leaving the troops on picket duty. You will satisfy yourself fully concerning the position and movements of the enemy (if any), and upon accomplishing the object of the reconnaissance you will return to your position and report the result. You will advise the commanding general of the progress of your reconnaissance.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
November 6, 1864—10.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: As your communication, directing a reconnaissance to-morrow, does not indicate the hour at which I shall move my command, I would respectfully inquire if, in your opinion, it would not be well for me to delay moving until about the middle of the day, so that I may

*For answer, see Meade to Grant (same to Warren and Parke), 10.30 a. m., p. 528.

ascertain the position and any movements of the enemy toward night. If the enemy design moving toward our rear to make a demonstration on Tuesday, it is not probable they would be moving so that I might discover them until late in the day. If it is desired that I shall move earlier, please inform me.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 6, 1864.

Major-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general is of opinion you will not have time to move sufficiently far if you do not start before midday. The reconnaissance should extend several miles beyond Reams' Station, on the line of the railway and west of it—perhaps beyond Rowanty Creek. However, you will know best how to make it and the routes the enemy would use.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, *November 6, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Hoffman House, corner Broadway and 25th streets, New York:

I returned yesterday from my scout through Charles City and Henrico Counties, bringing in fourteen prisoners, thirty-one head of cattle, sixteen sheep, fifteen horses, and five mules. The work was done most thoroughly. I burned the dwellings, with the outbuildings, each of them being the residence of guerrillas and points of rendezvous for them. I also obtained some information from your niece, which I have communicated to General Grant. Immediately upon returning, I was ordered here to report to you by telegraph for duty. Shall I come in to-night's steamer? I know I can be of service. Please answer on receipt.

JOHN I. DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 6, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY:

It will be well for you to push cavalry out to-morrow as far toward the Chickahominy as they can go and as near to the enemy. It is possible there will be an effort made to-morrow night or Tuesday by the enemy. They will not venture on a direct attack, but may attempt to get in your rear with a small force.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch is received. Yesterday, having in view the possibility of attack at this time, I directed the cavalry pickets to be pushed farther out than they recently have been. Since the reception of your order I have directed Colonel West, who commands the division, to push out Spear's brigade toward the Chickahominy at an hour before daylight to-morrow morning, paying particular attention to the Charles City and Long Bridge roads and looking out for the White Oak bridge. The brigade will be relieved at midday by Evans' brigade. These two brigades will relieve each other alternately in the performance of this duty as long as may be thought necessary. The third brigade of the division will remain to do the ordinary picket duty.

Very respectfully,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *November 6, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: Have the honor to report that I was afraid the enemy would become emboldened to-day by the inaccuracy of our fire, caused by using the Absterdam shell. Sent them a case now and then to keep them in check. Heard no more from them than usual. Have all exercised our ingenuity in getting a good impression of the worn vent; tried your plan with clay and failed; tried melted tallow and failed again. Shall not give it up, however, until further plans have been tested. The vent of another of the 4.5-inch guns has become fully as bad as that you examined. Everything belonging to the 30-pounder Parrott is safely in this fort. Have commenced building log houses for the men. Wish the engineers would get through, so that I could clean up. Have had no shots in our direction to-day. Think the men are improving in health rapidly. Please don't send any more Absterdam shell.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 44. } HDQRS. LIGHT ARTILLERY BRIGADE, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 6, 1864.

I. Two guns (one section) of Lieutenant Metcalf's (Fifth New Jersey) battery, with 144 rounds of ammunition and eighteen boxes assorted, will be placed in the redoubt occupied by Lieutenant Tully's battery (D, First U. S. Artillery).

II. Four guns (two sections) of Battery D, First Artillery, will be brought from the redoubt in which they now are to the caisson camp.

III. The guns (one section) of Captain Clinton's (First Connecticut) battery will be placed in the redoubt now occupied by Lieutenant Myrick's battery (E, Third U. S. Artillery).

IV. Four guns (two sections) of Battery E, Third U. S. Artillery, will be brought from the redoubt in which they now are to the caisson camp.

* * * * * * *

VI. At reveille to-morrow the horses will be harnessed and all hitched, excepting the piece teams, which will remain harnessed and in readiness, but none will move unless ordered, excepting to make the changes and return. The teams may be unhitched and unharnessed if no orders to the contrary are received by an hour after daylight.

VII. The commanding officers will be held responsible for a prompt execution of these orders at the time prescribed.

By order of Lieut. Col. R. H. Jackson:

R. M. HALL,
First Lieut., First U. S. Artillery, and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 158. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., November 6, 1864.

1. Col. F. B. Pond, Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, having been honorably discharged the service of the United States at his own request, Col. J. C. Briscoe, One hundred and ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the temporary command of the First Brigade, First Division, Tenth Army Corps.

By order of Col. A. C. Voris:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 31. } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 10TH A. C.,
Before Richmond, Va., November 6, 1864.

I. Capt. W. D. Crandall, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, having been assigned to duty with this brigade by Special Orders, No. 173, from headquarters Tenth Army Corps, is hereby announced as assistant adjutant-general of this command.

II. Lieut. Fred. Sandrock, Company D, One hundredth New York Volunteers, is hereby announced as acting aide-de-camp on the staff of the colonel commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Col. G. B. Dandy, One hundredth New York Volunteers, commanding brigade:

W. D. CRANDALL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM BIRNEY,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to request that you will instruct the officers in command of the forces in the redoubts on the extreme right of our line to furnish to Major Michie, chief engineer of the department, such detail for fatigue duty at these points as he

may call for. The commanding general also desires that at night infantry pickets should be posted where they have not already been established around the redoubts above referred to, as he fears to place too much dependence upon the cavalry outposts and pickets. Communication can be had by signal from these headquarters to New Market Heights.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 4. } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 3D DIV., 10TH A. C.,
In the Field, Va., November 6, 1864.

In compliance with Special Orders, No. 33, headquarters Third Division, Tenth Army Corps, November 6, 1864, the undersigned hereby assumes command of this brigade. All existing orders will remain in force until otherwise ordered.

U. DOUBLEDAY,
Colonel Forty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

General WEITZEL:

General Grant telegraphs to me that he thinks the enemy may attempt to get in our rear to-morrow night or Tuesday morning. I should be very glad to look over the ground with you. Can you spare the time to ride with me from Four-Mile Church to the Deep Bottom lines to-morrow morning, say about 9 o'clock?

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 6, 1864.

Lieut. Col. THOMAS MULCAHY,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: In regard to your communication just received, the general commanding directs me to say that the man having deserted to our lines cannot be given up. It appears that the officer of the picket on the other side made an arrangement whereby an opportunity was given to his men to desert. If the man had been detained by our pickets while between the lines pending such an arrangement he would have been sent back, but as the man took advantage of this very improper agreement between the officers of the opposing picket-lines to desert he will not be given up.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. A. BRUCE,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 193. } HDQRS. DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA, *New Berne, N. C., November 6, 1864.*

I. Col. J. Frankle, Second Massachusetts Artillery, with three companies of his regiment, will at once proceed to Plymouth, N. C., and occupy the place. Colonel Frankle will report by letter to Colonel Wardrop, commanding Sub-District of the Albemarle, at Roanoke Island, on his arrival at Plymouth. Ten days' rations will be carried, and if, at the expiration of that time, no other orders are received, as much more will be drawn from the acting commissary of subsistence at Roanoke Island as Colonel Frankle may deem proper. Each company will take with it the full regulation supply of camp and garrison equipage, including shelter-tents, axes, shovels, &c. The assistant quartermaster has been directed to send two six-mule teams with this detachment, and the duty of the command will be to not only occupy the position, but to place the works in as defensible a condition as practicable. Colonel Frankle will confer with the naval commander concerning the heavy ordnance and ammunition. Should any houses be found near the works suitable to quarter the garrison in, they can be used as barracks, otherwise the shelter-tents must be used. All necessary policing to make the surroundings of the garrison healthy will be done immediately. No houses or buildings of any kind that are in good condition will be disturbed, but should the command return to New Berne Colonel Frankle is authorized to bring away from the houses already destroyed sash, doors, shingles, &c., for his own use at New Berne. The same transportation that takes this detachment to Plymouth will bring back to Roanoke Island the troops now there. Colonel Frankle will see that this is done promptly.

II. Col. J. Frankle, Second Massachusetts Artillery, is hereby constituted military governor of Plymouth, N. C.

III. Col. J. Frankle, Second Massachusetts Artillery, having been constituted military governor of Plymouth, N. C., he will turn over the command of his regiment to his next in rank, and the regimental headquarters will remain in the Sub-District of New Berne.

IV. Great credit is due the clerks and orderlies at these headquarters and at headquarters Sub-District of New Berne for their successful efforts in saving from the flames the records of the assistant adjutant-generals' offices at both headquarters. As a reward for their gallantry the chief provost-marshal will pay each and every one of them $5 from the provost fund.

By command of Brig. Gen. I. N. Palmer:

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 7, 1864—3 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

Unless you insist on it, I will make no report to go before Congress. This campaign not being ended whilst Richmond is in the possession of the enemy, I could not properly make a report further than is embraced in subordinate reports now in the Department at Washington without giving information that would be valuable to the enemy. I also doubt the propriety of my absenting myself from here for five or six days, as I should have to do to make a report.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 7, 1864.*
(Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

Our loss in killed, wounded, and missing in the attack on our picket-line the night of the 5th proves to be only twenty. Deserters from that portion of the enemy's line making the attack say theirs was about 200. Our captures were forty-two prisoners and some intrenching tools. The enemy have asked permission to bury their dead under flag.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 7, 1864—12 m. (Sent 3.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing of consequence to report, all having been quiet during the past twenty-four hours. A deserter, who came into the Second Corps lines, estimates the enemy's loss in the affair of night before last as about 200. Major-General Hancock reports his loss in killed, wounded, and missing as under twenty.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 7, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Lieutenant-General Anderson has applied to Major-General Hancock for a flag of truce for an hour or two to bury the dead lying between the lines. It will hardly be practicable to have one this evening; but, with your permission, authority can be given to Hancock to arrange one to-morrow morning.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *November 7, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Lieutenant-General Grant approves your proposal in reference to a flag of truce for burying the dead.

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 7, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL OF THE ARMY:

Referring to my report of the 3d instant, upon the communication of Hon. A. W. Randall, in relation to the order issued by me, on the 23d of September last, depriving the Eight New York Heavy Artillery, One

hundred and sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, and the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers of the right to carry colors by reason of their reported misconduct in battle, I have now the pleasure to state that those regiments, having behaved with distinguished bravery at the engagement of the 27th ultimo on Hatcher's Run, I have this day issued a general order setting aside the prohibition placed upon them by the order of September 23.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following deserters have been forwarded to-day: Two from the Seventh and Eighteenth North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division; two from Sixth Virginia, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Thirty-fifth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division; two from Fifth ninth Virginia, Wise's brigade, Johnson's division. No important information has been elicited. The position of the enemy remains unchanged. A refugee from Richmond, named Aug. Vondler, a mechanic employed by the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad Company, came into General Gibbon's lines this a. m. He left Petersburg last night, and Richmond yesterday morning on the 9.15 train. Has nothing new or important to communicate, except that he heard a North Carolina soldier say in Petersburg that troops were to be sent to North Carolina soon from Lee's army, and that his brigade was going. It was probably one of Ransom's men, judging from the place informant saw him. Enemy's position between Appomattox and James remains unchanged as far as informant's knowledge extends. He apparently knows very little about military matters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Foggy and little can be seen. No changes observed. All quiet.

TOWN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The fog has made it impossible to see enemy's lines most of the day. No changes observed.

TOWN.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 41. } *November 7, 1864.*

I. The Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, One hundred and sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, and Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, having been reported to the major-general commanding as having behaved with distinguished bravery during the engagement of October 27, 1864, on Hatcher's Run, he takes pleasure in restoring to those gallant regiments the right to carry colors, of which they were deprived by his General Orders, No. 37, of September 23, 1864.

II. It having been reported to the major-general commanding that the colors of the following mentioned regiments, recently lost in battle, were lost under circumstances that reflect no dishonor upon those regiments, they are hereby permitted to carry other colors, viz: Ninth New Hampshire Volunteers, Fifty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers, Fifty-first New York Volunteers, Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 301. } *November 7, 1864.*

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6. Bvt. Brig. Gen. James Gwyn, U. S. Volunteers, having reported to the commanding general in compliance with orders from headquarters Armies of the United States, will report to the major-general commanding the Fifth Army Corps for further instructions.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864—9 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

There is nothing new to report this morning. An intelligent deserter from Ransom's brigade estimates the enemy's entire loss, night before last, at about 200 men. His regiment, Thirty-fifth North Carolina, has received 100 new men within the last fortnight.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

Lieutenant-General Anderson requests a flag of truce for one hour to bury the dead and remove the wounded near the Crater. I don't think it can be arranged before dark to-night, as it is now 4.30.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 7, 1864—4.40 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general requests that you will send forward Lieutenant-General Anderson's communication. It is too late to arrange it this evening in time to admit of their being removed before dark.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

General Anderson's communication has been forwarded to you. I could not communicate your answer to General Anderson, as it was dark before a staff officer could get down there.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 7, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The major-general commanding requests me to say that you can make any proper arrangement with General Anderson for removing the wounded and burying the dead under flag of truce to-morrow.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I will send out at daylight in the morning, offering cessation of hostilities from 9 a. m. till 10 a. m., at the point where the dead and wounded are, and will notify you of the result.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 7, 1864—8 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The communication of Lieutenant-General Anderson, Confederate Army, is received. The commanding general requests that you will reply to it under the authority conveyed by telegraph at 6.30 p. m.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The commander of my picket-line on the river reports that during the p. m. two guns were moved by the enemy from their left to their center. A verbal report was sent to the corps officer of the day just before dark, by the picket officer, that the enemy were heard at work cutting timber opposite the island. At this place there is only about thirty feet of deep water between our side and the island. It is possible the enemy may be fixing bridges to communicate with their pickets in the marsh at that place. I have directed General Gibbon to keep a very close watch across the river, and have sent a staff officer to the point referred to to make observations.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on the line during the past twenty-four hours. Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, Lieutenant Beck, commanding, moved out into the new fort near the Avery house; expended four rounds of ammunition.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTY. BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS,
No. 187. } *November 7, 1864.*

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II. Lieutenant Campbell, commanding Battery F, First Pennsylvania Artillery, will have one section of his battery hitched and harnessed immediately and report in person to General Miles, commanding First Division, Second Army Corps, for further orders.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you have a good regiment in readiness to proceed on short notice to the Appomattox, opposite the island or elsewhere, should there be any indications of an attempt by the enemy to cross. A section of artillery has been

ordered to be in readiness to proceed to the same point. The commanding officer will report to you, in order that you may know where to send for him in case the regiment is ordered to move.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that in compliance with instructions received from the major-general commanding the corps, Bvt. Brig. Gen. George N. Macy, colonel Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, has been assigned to the command of the First Brigade of this division. The following-named officers are now commanding the several brigades: Bvt. Brig. Gen. George N. Macy, First Brigade; Col. Robert Nugent, Second Brigade; Col. C. D. MacDougall, Third Brigade; Col. St. C. A. Mulholland, Fourth Brigade.

Very respectfully,

N. A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION,
November 7, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

SIR: My line between Fort Stedman and Battery No. 9 is very weak, and I have directed that to-night after dark my reserve regiment, the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, be placed in that part of the works. This will leave me no reserves, but General Macy's brigade I think is sufficient for the purpose.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

[Indorsement.]

The major-general commanding thinks it better that for the present the Eighth New York and any other reserve General Gibbon may have should be on the line, as General Gibbon has directed.

A deserter from Ransom's brigade states that last night and the night before his brigade was under orders to attack the picket-line between Forts Stedman and McGilvery, but the attack was opposed in each case by the brigade commander. Though this may not be true, it is proper that every precaution should be taken against such an attack. Ransom's brigade rests its left on the river.

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 67. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS, *November 7, 1864.*

The brevet major-general commanding takes great pleasure in expressing to the command his gratification with the good conduct of the troops engaged in the affair on the night of the 5th instant, resulting in the retaking of that portion of the picket-line wrested from us by an overwhelming force of the enemy; the capture of forty-two prisoners, including one commissioned officer; the forcing of the enemy to leave in our hands a number of their dead and a quantity of small-arms and intrenching tools. Special mention is due to Col. R. McAllister, commanding Third Brigade, who gave his personal superintendence to the operations, and to the officers on his staff, who rendered him such efficient service. The conduct of the officers and men of the One hundred and twentieth New York Volunteers and the Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, who were directly engaged, is worthy of emulation. Such gallantry always displayed would soon bring the rebellion to a close.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS, *November 7, 1864.*

The Fifth Corps having relieved part of our picket-line, which admits of a reduction in the line of this division, Brigadier-General Pierce will relieve fifty men of General De Trobriand's, and General De Trobriand fifty men of Colonel McAllister's brigade. This change will take place as soon as practicable.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *November 7, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during yesterday and last night. Six deserters were received yesterday; two from Thirteenth North Carolina, two from Twelfth Virginia, two from Sixth Virginia.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 276. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *November 7, 1864.*

I. The instructions heretofore given Brigadier-General Baxter to report directly to these headquarters are rescinded, and he will receive his orders direct from Brigadier-General Crawford, commanding Third Division.

II. Brigadier-General Crawford will extend the right of his picket-line a distance of about seven posts toward the Second Corps line.

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IV. Bvt. Brig. Gen. James Gwyn, having reported, in compliance with paragraph VI of Special Orders, No. 301, from headquarters Army of the Potomac, is assigned to the First Division, and will report to Brigadier-General Griffin, commanding.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR No. 152.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

To-morrow, 8th instant, being election day, all drills will be suspended. Division commanders and the commander of the Artillery Brigade are requested to take measures to enable their men to vote early and as promptly as possible, so that the polls may be closed as early as practicable, and that their men be held ready to meet any emergency that may arise from a demonstration on the part of the enemy. They are desired also to caution increased vigilance on their picket-lines.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 160. } HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
Camp before Petersburg, Va., November 7, 1864.

I. Bvt. Brig. Gen. James Gwyn, having reported, in compliance with paragraph 4, Special Orders, No. 276, headquarters Fifth Army Corps, is hereby assigned to the command of the First Brigade of this division.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual transpired along our line during the past twenty-four hours. One man from the Twenty-ninth Massachusetts attempted to desert to the enemy, but was arrested and is now in charge of the provost guard.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 7, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Major-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general directs that you send patrols and scouts well out to-morrow morning at an early hour so as to have early intelligence of the enemy, should he be moving. Such scouting and patrolling should be kept up during the day.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY CORPS,
November 7, 1864—9.25 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The regiment sent to Freeman's Bridge has returned. A portion of the regiment went a mile south of the Nottoway; no enemy discovered in that vicinity. The roads followed by me to-day were very frequently heavily barricaded. My command marched about twenty-three miles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Colonel, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Col. M. KERWIN,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

COLONEL: To obtain the earliest intelligence of the enemy, should they be moving toward our rear, you will, during to-morrow, send frequent scouts out on the road by Gary's Church toward Wood's Shop; also out on the plank road across Warwick Swamp, splitting the party, scouting the road your brigade moved on going out to-day and the plank road toward Proctor's. The officer commanding will report the result on his return. The first patrol will start at daylight. Colonel Smith will send a patrol down the Wyatt road from the left of the railroad, so that possibly this scouting party moving on the road used by your brigade to-day may meet them, and will have to be particular and not fire into them. I have notified Colonel Smith that you will patrol said road.

By command of Brig. Gen. D. McM. Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 7, 1864—12.25 a. m.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City Point:

A small demonstration has just been made upon our cavalry near Fussell's Mill. A party of the enemy's infantry, estimated at 200 men, drove in the pickets and attacked the supports. They were driven back and our line re-established. Colonel West, commanding the cavalry division, has sent out to that quarter Spear's brigade, which was to go out just before daylight.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 7, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding:

I see that our papers announce that large numbers of the army have gone home to vote. These papers get through to the enemy within an hour after reaching our lines. Information gained by this means the

enemy may try to take advantage of. If we are prepared I hope he may. I see by the Richmond papers that they think this depletion is mostly from the Army of the James; at least they say they know that most of the forces from the north side have gone; that nothing is left but a skeleton line to hold our works. I think from this there is sufficient probability of your being attacked to justify the greatest vigilance on the part of division and brigade commanders, and the most perfect readiness to form and move their commands. If the enemy should attack and be repulsed he should be followed up at once and no officer should hold back for orders to do so.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 7, 1864—12.40 p. m. (Received 1.35 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

Your dispatch is just received. I will see that the most extreme vigilance is exercised. The only point about which I have anxiety is our right and rear. I think, however, that sufficient precautions have been taken for this point. The cavalry are well out, covering it; the redoubt at Camp Holly has six guns, four of them 20-pounders; that at Signal Hill, ten guns; that at Four-Mile Church, six guns; at the small works, between the two last named, there are two guns. All these works have good infantry garrisons. I have increased the force in the new line in front of Deep Bottom, so that there are now there 2,000 men; they occupy the right of the line, running nearly as far to the left as the Grover house. In case of attack in that direction Weitzel will move troops at once down the Kingsland road; Ames (Tenth Corps) will move a column down the New Market road; Weitzel will change direction to the left and Ames to the right, and form line of battle on a crest between and running at right angles with the two roads, the left resting on one of the redoubts, this connecting with the left of the men in the new Deep Bottom line. I think the position will then be very strong. I have been over the ground with Weitzel this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *November 7, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: Have the honor to report less firing by the enemy to-day than yesterday. As I informed you in my previous report, the vents of two of the 4.5-inch guns are so much worn as to render it unsafe to use them longer. To-day noticed that the vent of the third was rapidly becoming enlarged; will not stand more than 150 rounds more at the outside. Under the circumstances, will it be best to send any more 4.5-inch ammunition at present? Colonel Piper sent for me to-night in haste, and said, as several of the light pieces had been removed from the redoubts above, it would be a good idea to move one or two of the 30-pounder Parrotts to take their places. Told the colonel that I could

not reduce the armament of Fort Brady without orders from you. The matter dropped. Said he had spoken to you with reference to removing the 8-inch mortars to Fort Harrison; said you gave your consent in case he sent for them. Please send me definite instructions about it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864—1 a. m.

It having been reported to the commanding general that the enemy have made their appearance in the vicinity of our cavalry outposts, he directs that the officers commanding the detached works on the New Market road have them manned promptly at reveille, and if the proper supply of ammunition is not already on hand that measures be taken to supply it immediately.

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864—2 a. m.

DIVISION COMMANDERS:

The brigadier-general commanding directs that the garrisons assigned to the redoubts be placed therein at reveille and the lines manned. Such troops as are not needed for the above will form a movable column on the New Market road, the head of the First Division at Four-Mile Church, upon which those of the Second and Third will close up. If the proper supply of ammunition is not on hand measures will be taken to procure it immediately.

WM. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CHIEF OF ARTILLERY, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel JACKSON,
Chief of Artillery, Tenth Army Corps:

Battery L, Fourth U. S. Artillery, is in position on the Bermuda front; F, Fifth U. S. Artillery, is in position on our corps front (in Batteries Nos. 3 and 4); F, First Rhode Island Artillery, is at the other end of pontoon bridge at Varina; B, First U. S. Artillery, is attached to the cavalry—it does not report to me now; I understand it is near the Crow's Nest. Have you any second lieutenants of the First Rhode Island Artillery who can be spared for duty with Battery F of that regiment? It has lately lost all of its officers, and I have had assigned to its command a young officer of the Sixteenth New York Battery.

ALEXANDER PIPER,
Colonel, Tenth New York Artillery, Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS, &C.,
November 7, 1864.

General AMES:

Please get ready 2,000 men, with their arms, to make rifle-pits on the line which it is proposed to fight on if the enemy attempt to turn our right. Collect every shovel that is to be found.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 125. } HDQRS. 2D DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 7, 1864.

Maj. James A. Colvin, One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the redoubt in front of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, relieving Lieut. Col. A. Alden, who will turn over to Major Colvin full instructions. The duties of Major Colvin will not relieve him from duty with his regiment, except in case of a movement of the troops.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

T. ELLERY LORD,
Capt., 3d Infty., N. Y. Vols., and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 7, 1864.

[Col. G. PENNYPACKER,
Commanding Second Brigade:]

COLONEL: In view of an apprehended attack to be made on our extreme right, you will have the garrison assigned to the redoubt on your front placed thereon, and the line of works manned the same as to-day at 4.30 o'clock this a. m. The force to be placed along the works will be sufficiently strong to resist an ordinary attack. Only the balance of your brigade will be moved out in the New Market road, as a movable column in the rear of the First Brigade, and in the neighborhood of the Four-Mile Church, where you will find a staff officer to direct you where to go. You will report at once to these headquarters what troops you will send to the right down the New Market road. The camps will not be disturbed, but left as they are. The men will have sixty rounds of ammunition.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

T. ELLERY LORD,
Capt., 3d Infty., N. Y. Vols., and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 7, 1864.

Capt. T. E. LORD,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report, pursuant to instructions received from brigadier-general commanding, that in case of a movement to-morrow morning the three battalions of my brigade will contain, respectively, the number of officers and men indicated below, viz: Two hun-

dred and third Pennsylvania Volunteers, 27 officers and 790 men; Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, 7 officers and 140 men; Forty-seventh New York, 10 officers and 186 men; total, 44 officers and 1,116 men. The two battalions remaining behind as garrison will number as follows, viz: Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, 5 officers and 230 men; Forty-eighth New York Volunteers, 10 officers and 262 men; total, 15 officers and 492 men. The report of this brigade this morning shows 62 officers and 1,702 men. Of this number 155 enlisted men of the Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers are unarmed recruits, who will be unable to move with the column. All verbal instructions in reference to marching with full ranks, prevention of straggling, sleeping with accouterments on, and turning out at 4.45 a. m. to-morrow, have been promulgated and will be carried out.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. PENNYPACKER,

Colonel Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,

November 7, 1864. (Sent 12.35 a. m.)

Major-General WEITZEL:

Our cavalry pickets near Fussell's Mill have been attacked and driven in by a party of the enemy's infantry estimated at 200 men. They came from the direction of the Charles City road. Our line has been re-established by a re-enforcement sent out by Colonel West. I would suggest that from reveille to-morrow morning you should keep a force ready to move up the Kingsland road, and occupy the new line of works in front of Deep Bottom. I have one regiment of colored troops on the right of that line now. Indeed, if you had the troops to spare it might not be amiss to send a regiment there at once. This is the point for which General Grant has expressed apprehension.

ALF. H. TERRY,

Brevet Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Col. E. Martindale has been notified to occupy the line spoken of at Deep Bottom by two regiments of his brigade. Division commanders will use the utmost vigilance to meet any surprise.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. Weitzel:

D. D. WHEELER,

Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,

In the Field, November 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General HECKMAN,

Commanding Second Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In case the attack anticipated by General Grant is made I hereby inform you what I propose to do, in order that you may act intelligently. I take it for granted that the enemy, in case he makes the attack, will have his works in our front held by a weak line of militia, conscripts, &c., and will take his movable force, which consists according to last accounts, of Hoke's and Field's divisions, and the remainder

of Bushrod Johnson's (Tennessee) brigade, numbering in all about 7,000 effective men, and attempt so to threaten our right and rear as to force us to fall back upon Deep Bottom. This movement will probably be accompanied by weak feints upon one or more portions of our line. Clearly the best way to meet this movement of the enemy is to leave our lines guarded in a similar manner to the enemy's line. If this attack is made in the manner in which I suppose it will be, I propose to leave the whole of our line under the command of Brigadier-General Heckman, commanding Second Division. He will have the troops of his own division, those of the Third Brigade of the Third Division, the Second U. S. Colored Cavalry, dismounted, and the One hundred and seventh U. S. Colored Infantry. With these it is presumed that he will have a stronger line than the opposing line of the enemy, and by holding his redoubts strongly and the intermediate parapets with what is left, be enabled successfully to repulse any weak feint on the part of the enemy. General Paine, in command of the First and Second Brigades of his division, and General Devens, in command of the whole of his division, will form the movable column of this corps, and will be prepared to move by the Kingsland road to Deep Bottom, where the western crests of the valley of Bailey's Creek, which are provided with strong redoubts to form secure flanks for line of battle, will enable the movable column of this corps alone to easily repulse the anticipated attack of the enemy. In case the event herein anticipated occurs, I desire all baggage and all vehicles not necessary for the troops to be sent promptly to the neighborhood of the pontoon bridge at Aiken's, so as to be secure in case of disaster. You will see to your own supplies of ammunition. The batteries of artillery will accompany the movable column.

By command of Brevet Major-General Weitzel:

D. D. WHEELER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Devens and Paine.)

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. G. V. HENRY,
Commanding Third Brigade:

GENERAL: In case the expected attack is made, it is presumed it will be made on our right, in which event the division will move on the Kingsland road to Deep Bottom. The general commanding desires that you have your command in readiness to move at any moment during the night, the men's knapsacks packed before tattoo, and all baggage in readiness to move to the rear. If the event anticipated should occur, all vehicles and Government property will be at once moved to the vicinity of the pontoon bridge at Aiken's Landing. In case the division moves the Third Brigade will take the advance, followed by the First and that by the Second Brigade.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. A. BRUCE,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Lieut. Col. Thomas Mulcahy, commanding First Brigade, and Col. E. M. Cullen, commanding Second Brigade.)

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Respectfully referred to regimental commanders for their information.

Everything must be kept in perfect readiness. Regimental commanders will be held strictly responsible that the within instruction is carried out.

By command of Col. Guy V. Henry:

B. F. DAVIS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. GUY V. HENRY,
Commanding Third Brigade:

GENERAL: The general commanding desires you to report at once any movements that may be discovered on the part of the enemy. Constant vigilance will be observed along your lines and the troops kept well in hand for any emergency.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully,

GEO. A. BRUCE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., 18TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 7, 1864.

I. Respectfully referred to the commanding officers of regiments, who will keep their commands in readiness according to direction of the general commanding division.

II. The brigade officer of the day will comply with the instruction of general commanding division and report any movement at once to colonel commanding the brigade, and will turn over said instruction to succeeding brigade officer of the day.

By command of Col. Guy V. Henry:

B. F. DAVIS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 7, 1864.

Col. A. G. DRAPER,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs me to inform you that in case the enemy attempts to turn our right flank the Fifth U. S. Colored Troops will, in that case, be ordered to report to Col. J. W. Ames, commanding Third Brigade, and you will so dispose of your two remaining regiments as to cover the line now held by your entire brigade. You will see that the Fifth U. S. Colored Troops is supplied at once with two days' rations, uncooked.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SOLON A. CARTER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 7, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General DRAPER,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: I wish about seventy-five men under a selected officer, to be assigned as a garrison for each of the batteries on your front, to move into them at once if the corps moves to the right to-morrow. In that case the Thirty-eighth and Thirty-sixth [U. S. Colored Troops] will remain, the Fifth going with Colonel Ames; therefore select the officer and men for Battery No. 3 from the right of the Thirty-sixth; the officer and men for Battery No. 4 from the left of the Thirty-sixth or right of the Thirty-eighth. Take men by companies as far as possible, and let the numbers be no less than above. Pick two officers for each battery if you can. Let me know the names, &c., of officers selected to-night. See them yourself, and let them distinctly understand that the batteries must never be given up, whether the line is carried or not.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. J. PAINE,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 7, 1864.

Col. E. MARTINDALE,
Commanding Provisional Brigade:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you occupy the works spoken of in front of Deep Bottom in the inclosed copy of telegram* by two regiments of your command, now encamped at Cox's field. As soon as you have the regiments in position there you will send notification thereof to these headquarters. You will leave behind only sufficient men for camp guard. The mounted orderly bringing this dispatch will show you the road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. D. WHEELER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *November 8, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

Your report can lay over until the campaign is ended. I am perfectly contented to wait for the conditions mentioned in your postscript.
EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 8, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Sent 10.40 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

There was picket-firing last evening for about an hour in front of Fort Meikel; no result. The rest of the lines quiet. Lieutenant-General Anderson, Confederate Army, applied through Major-General Hancock for permission to remove the wounded and bury the dead lying between the lines since the affair of the 5th instant. Major-General Hancock

* See Terry to Weitzel, 12.35 a. m. p. 554.

was authorized to grant a truce from 9 to 10 a. m. to-day. General Gregg reported last night the return of the cavalry reconnaissance. One brigade went down the railroad eight miles beyond Reams' Station, and another brigade went down the Jerusalem plank road beyond the crossing of the Nottoway. No signs of the enemy in force were discovered, or could be heard. About nine prisoners, principally scouts, were picked up.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 8, 1864.

Capt. A. J. DALLAS,
Assistant Provost-Marshal-General:

SIR: The commanding general directs that you cause Mr. Jeremiah McKibbin, a commissioner to this army from Pennsylvania under the laws of that State respecting the soldiers' voting, to be notified that he cannot leave this army until certain matters in connection with the election held to-day in the One hundred and eighteenth Pennsylvania Regiment shall have been investigated. If Mr. McKibbin will give his parole not to leave the army he need not be placed under restraint, but he will be required to report to you daily and keep you advised as to where he may be found.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following deserters have been forwarded to-day that came into our lines last evening: Three from Sixth Virginia, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Tenth Georgia Battalion, Wright's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Thirty-third North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division. Also the following prisoners of war taken yesterday by the Second and Third Brigades of the Second Cavalry Division: Seven from Third North Carolina Cavalry, Barringer's brigade; two from Fifth North Carolina Cavalry, Barringer's brigade; one from Sixth South Carolina Cavalry, Dunovant's brigade; two from Fifty-third Virginia Infantry (scouts). No important information obtained from the examinations. No change discovered in the enemy's position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Very foggy until recently; no changes observed.

TOWN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Jordan reports several small new camps in rear and to left of Cemetery Hill. All quiet reported by all stations.

TOWN.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 389. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, November 8, 1864.

* * * * * * *

6. Maj. Charles S. Stewart, Corps of Engineers, will turn over the charge of Fort Monroe and other works under his care to Col. Henry Brewerton, Corps of Engineers (now at Fort Monroe), and repair without delay to the headquarters of Lieutenant-General Grant, to whom he will report for duty.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding U. S. Forces, near Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: Your letter of this date has been received, and your proposition is accepted, viz, the truce to commence at 9 a. m. and end at 10 a. m., and to extend no farther than the vicinity of the skirmish on the night of the 5th instant.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. H. ANDERSON,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864. (Received 8.45 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

There will be a truce between 9 and 10 a. m. on my front in order to allow the enemy to bury their dead. The same troops are not there that were there on occasion of the night fight. The receipt to my dispatch which was sent to the enemy this a. m. is signed by the acting adjutant-general of General Wallace. Owing to the fog it was too late last night to communicate with the enemy.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There was no change in my lines during the past twenty-four hours. A sharp fire between the pickets opposite Fort Meikel took place about

8 p. m., but did not amount to anything. A flag of truce has been arranged with the enemy, and there is a cessation of hostilities near the Crater for one hour; that is, from 9 to 10 a. m.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864. (Received 12 m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Truce is over. The enemy acknowledge a loss of 200. Will send Petersburg and Richmond papers by messenger.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864. (Received 12 m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

I will send you the rebel papers of the 7th and 8th instant. The sinking of the Albemarle and the taking of Plymouth by our gun-boats in consequence thereof is confirmed.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

The following is the result of the election in the artillery brigade of this corps: Battery F, First Pennsylvania, Lincoln, 69; McClellan, 46. Battery L, Fourth New York, Lincoln, 50; McClellan, 29. Twelfth New York Independent Battery, Lincoln, 42; McClellan, 16. Eleventh New York Independent Battery, Lincoln, 75; McClellan, 25. Sixth Maine Battery, Lincoln, 58; McClellan, 3. First New Hampshire Battery, Lincoln, 51; McClellan, 2. Battery B, First Rhode Island, Lincoln, 12; McClellan, 0. Battery C, Fourth New York, Lincoln, 15; McClellan, 18; Lincoln's majority, 233. These are all the batteries that vote except G, First New York, whose votes were sent home sealed. The following is the result in the Third Division, Major-General Mott's: Seventeenth Maine Volunteers, Lincoln, 198; McClellan, 47. First Maine Heavy Artillery, Lincoln, 60; McClellan, 0 (greater part of this regiment are at Cedar Level—their votes not yet received). Second U. S. Sharpshooters, Lincoln, 87; McClellan, 20. Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 147; McClellan, 81. One hundred and tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 91; McClellan, 72. Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 95; McClellan, 33. One hundred and forty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 195; McClellan, 5. Eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 115; McClellan, 46. One hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 136; McClellan, 73. Fifth Michigan, Lincoln, 157; McClellan, 65. First U. S. Sharpshooters, Lincoln, 22; McClellan, 0. Lincoln's majority in Third Division, 861. The returns from First and Second Divisions not yet received.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

General G. G. MEADE:

The following is the result of to-day's election in the First Division of this corps: Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 23; McClellan, 44. One hundred and fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 147; McClellan, 55. One hundred and eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 58; McClellan, 47. Fifty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 118; McClellan, 75. One hundred and forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 78; McClellan, 21. One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania, Lincoln, 127; McClellan, 72. One hundred and sixteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 54; McClellan, 58. Twenty-sixth Michigan Volunteers, Lincoln, 122; McClellan, 28. Fifth New Hampshire, Lincoln, 26; McClellan, 29. Total majority for Mr. Lincoln, 324. Returns of Second Division will be forwarded as soon as received.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

A cessation of hostilities for the burial of the dead will probably take place from 9 a. m. to 10 a. m. this day at the point only where the skirmish of the night of the 5th took place. If the proposed arrangement is effected it will be known by the display of a white flag on Fort Morton.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

There will be a cessation of hostilities between 9 and 10 a. m. this day, during which time no man will be permitted to go outside the picket-line.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

The truce with the enemy having now ceased, the general commanding directs that the ordinary firing be resumed, and especially that it be kept up as much as usual after dark.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

C. J. MILLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND CORPS,
No. 188. } *November 8, 1864.*

I. Lieut. William B. Beck, commanding Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, will on receipt of this order withdraw his batteries from the new fort near the Avery house and return to his old camp.

II. Lieut. J. F. Campbell, commanding Battery F, First Pennsylvania Artillery, will, on receipt of this order, place his battery in the new fort near the Avery house, relieving Lieut. William B. Beck, commanding Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery.

III. The commanding officer of Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, will have his command hitched and harnessed at 5 a. m. every morning until further orders.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 563. } *November 8, 1864.*

I. The Twenty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers is hereby detached from the First Brigade of this division and assigned to the Second Brigade, and will be reported accordingly. The chief quartermaster of the division will cause to be turned over to the assistant quartermaster of the Second Brigade all quartermaster's stores, means of transportation, &c., belonging to the Twenty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Brevet Major-General MOTT, *Third Division:*

GENERAL: During the flag of truce this morning Major Mitchell examined the position narrowly and is of the opinion that the greatest danger to your lines is from an attack on the flanks. He also noticed that the stream in rear of the line is quite an obstacle and has but few bridges and those merely permitting one file to move at a time. The general desires that you will strengthen the position as much as possible as the enemy will very likely make another attempt to capture the line. He suggests that the men should prepare abatis which can be thrown out at night. Now that the line has been attacked the general desires to hold it at all odds.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. MORGAN,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Col. ROBERT MCALLISTER, *Commanding Third Brigade:*

The brevet major-general commanding has just received a note from the major-general commanding the corps that he thinks the greatest danger to your line is from an attack on the flanks. General Mott desires that you will strengthen your position as much as possible and

build a few bridges across the stream in rear of your line. As the enemy will very likely make another attempt to capture your line, you had better take what abatis have been prepared to-day and throw them out to-night. The general desires that the line be held at all odds.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor, as corps officer of the day, to report as follows: After receiving my instructions I went to the right along the line. On arriving at Fort McGilvery, sent my aide, Lieutenant Bowers, down along the river to ascertain if anything new had or was transpiring. The Twelfth New Jersey Volunteers, belonging to the Second Division, do the picketing along the river. The captain (McIlhenny) commanding regiment informed my aide of some considerable chopping on the part of the enemy on the island, and more stir than usual among them. In accordance with a request I made to keep me posted as to any movements of the enemy, the commandant of the Twelfth New Jersey Volunteers sent a note saying that two pieces of artillery were removed by the enemy from his left to his center, to the place of this timber cutting. Lieutenant Bowers accompanied Captain Parker, of your staff, to ascertain the facts. On investigation it don't seem to amount to much, though some timber was cut, it is supposed for building purposes. The left of the line is all right. The division officer of the day for Third Division reports that the Fifth Corps have extended their line to the right, relieving us of several posts, and that the connection is good. As you are aware a request for a flag of truce came into our lines, but too late to act upon it before dark, though an attempt was made. Heavy musketry firing was kept up on both sides all night, and about 7.30 volleys were fired on the picket-line on the right of De Trobriand's front. I got my brigade under arms and sent out to the picket-line to ascertain what it was. Informed that the enemy made a demonstration, I sent up an aide to the First Brigade headquarters, but could learn nothing relative to it; did not seem to be aware that there was heavy firing. A flag of truce was sent out and a cessation of hostilities for one hour, from 9 till 10 this morning. The truce was ended at 10. Fourteen dead bodies were delivered to the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. McALLISTER,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report everything quiet in my front during the last twenty-four hours. No deserters received. A detail of 100 men is at work on Fort Conahey.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Sixteen regiments, Third Division, give Lincoln 1,932 and McClellan 894. Battery B, First Pennsylvania Artillery, gives 33 tor McClellan and 50 for Lincoln. No other returns hav been received.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 55. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

By decision of the military board convened at these headquarters, by virtue of special orders, the following list comprises all the battles in which this corps has been engaged. Many regiments have claimed as battles actions, which the board decides are only parts of the same battle and to be included under one name. All that are claimed on the original lists that do not appear on the list furnished have been rejected. It is decided that an organization may claim any engagement in which the corps to which it belonged took part, whether actively engaged or under orders and held in readiness on the field. Division commanders and the commander of the Artillery Brigade will have new lists forwarded as soon as possible from all the regiments and batteries in their commands, to include only such battles designated on the accompanying list, in order that the claims may be forwarded and the lists published at an early date:

1. Big Bethel		June 10, 1861.
2. First Bull Run	Blackburn's Ford	July 18, 1861.
	Bull Run	July 21, 1861.
3. Siege of Yorktown		April 5–May 4, 1862.
4. Lee's Mills		April 16, 1862.
5. Williamsburg		May 5, 1862.
6. Seven Pines or Fair Oaks		June 1, 1862.
7. Hanover Court-House		May 27, 1862.
8. Battle of June 25, 1862.		
9. Mechanicsville		June 26, 1862.
10. Gaines' Mill		June 27, 1862.
11. Peach Orchard		June 29, 1862.
12. Savage's Station		June 29, 1862.
13. White Oak Swamp		June 30, 1862.
14. Glendale, June 30, 1862	Glendale	June 30, 1862.
	New Market Cross-Roads	June 30, 1862.
	Charles City Cross-Roads	June 30, 1862.
15. Malvern Hill, July 1, 1862.	Turkey Bend	June 30, 1862.
	Malvern Hill	July 1, 1862.
16. Cedar Mountain		August 9, 1862.
17. Gainesville		August 28, 1862.
18. Second Bull Run, August 29 and 30, 1862	Groveton	August 29, 1862.
	Bull Run	August 30, 1862.
19. Bristoe		August 27, 1862.
20. Chantilly		September 1, 1862.
21. South Mountain		September 14, 1862.
22. Antietam, September 17, 1862	Antietam	September 17, 1862.
	Blackford's Ford	September 20 [19], 1862.
	Sheperdstown Ford	September 20, 1862.
	Sharpsburg	September 20 [19], 1862.
23. Fredericksburg		December 13, 1862.
24. Chancellorsville, April 30 to May 5, 1863	Fredericksburg	April 30, 1863.
	Chancellorsville	May 1–5, 1863.
25. Gettysburg		July 1–3, 1863.

26. Bristoe Station		October 14, 1863.
27. Rappahannock Station		November 7, 1863.
28. Mine Run		November 27, 1863.
29. Wilderness		May 5, 1864.
30. Spotsylvania	Laurel Hill	May 8, 1864.
	Po River	May 8, 1864.
	Todd's Tavern	May 14, 1864.
	Spotsylvania Court-House	May 18, 1864.
	Harris' Farm	May 19, 1864.
31. North Anna	Jericho Mills	May 23, 1864.
	North Anna River	May 23, 1864.
32. Totopotomoy Creek		May 30, 1864.
33. Bethesda Church, June 1-3, 1864	Magnolia Swamp	June 1, 1864.
	Bethesda Church	June 1–3, 1864.
34. Cold Harbor		June 2–3, 1864.
35. Petersburg	Norfolk Railroad	June 18, 1864.
	Jerusalem plank road	June 21, 1864.
	Petersburg	June 30, 1864.
36. Weldon railroad		August 18, 19, 21, 1864.
37. Peebles' Farm		September 30, 1864.
38. Chapel [Chappell] House		October 1, 1864.
39. Hatcher's Run		October 27, 1864.
40. Siege of Suffolk		April 12 to May 4, 1863.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

The following is the result of the election in this corps by regiments, majorities only given: Fifty-first Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Republican majority, 108; Eighth Michigan, Republican majority, 64; Twenty-seventh Michigan, Republican majority, 54; Thirty-seventh Wisconsin, Republican majority, 124; Thirty-eighth Wisconsin, Republican majority, 206; Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry, Republican majority, 68; Twentieth Michigan, Republican majority, 118, Second Michigan, Republican majority, 54; First Michigan Sharpshooters, Republican majority, 55; Fiftieth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Republican majority, 71; Sixtieth Ohio Volunteers, Republican majority, 52; One hundredth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Republican majority, 171; Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Republican majority, 78; Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Republican majority, 194; Seventeenth Michigan, Republican majority, 102; Sixth New Hampshire Volunteers, Republican majority, 82; Ninth New Hampshire Volunteers, Republican majority, 67; Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers, Republican majority, 84; Seventeenth Vermont Volunteers, Republican majority, 42; Thirty-first Maine Volunteers, Republican

majority, 87; Thirty-second Maine Volunteers, Republican majority, 37; Seventh Rhode Island Volunteers, Republican majority, 122; Third Maryland Veteran Volunteers, Democratic majority, 8; Second Maryland Volunteers, Democratic majority, 16; Battery D, Pennsylvania Artillery, Republican majority, 31; Seventh Maine Battery, Republican majority, 78. First Division, total Republican majority, 1,239. Second Division, total Republican majority, 777. Artillery Brigade, total Republican majority, 109. Total for corps, Republican majority, 2,125.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
November 8, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: My scouting parties to-day discover no movements of the enemy. At Proctor's, on the Jerusalem plank road, a picketing force of the enemy was found. This I suppose to be the force which yesterday and previously was kept at Salem Church, on the King's Crossing road, and about a mile and a half from Proctor's. Scouting parties to Disputanta and Sycamore Church captured two of the enemy's scouts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 8, 1864.

Major-General GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

The patrolling and scouting appearing to be so successful, the commanding general wishes it to be continued from time to time.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT BRADY, VA., *November 8, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: Have the honor to report that the enemy have changed their fire from behind the point of woods to the angle in the woods about the same direction beyond. Don't think they have been so active to-day as yesterday. Understand that it is the intention to place two 30-pounder Parrotts in the new work being built by Colonel Serrell, above Fort Brady. Trust that arrangements will be made to retain those here in their present position. Would it not be best to park the 4.5-inch guns and put the 30-pounders in embrasure?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *November 8, 1864.*

Capt. H. H. PIERCE,
Commanding Siege Artillery north of James:

CAPTAIN: You will not move any of your siege guns from their present positions except upon orders from the headquarters of the major-general commanding the department, or from me. In the case of mortars, if the rebels should open heavily upon our lines and continue their fire it may be necessary to reply at once. Accordingly, if Colonel Piper, chief of artillery, Eighteenth Corps, should make requisition upon you for them you are authorized to send them with men to serve them, at once notifying me. If the rebels do not open mortar fire it is not understood between Colonel Piper and myself that the mortars are to be moved.

Your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding Siege Train.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 8, 1864.

Capt. T. E. LORD,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to transmit the following as the vote of the various regiments of this brigade at the election held to-day, viz: Forty-seventh New York Volunteers voted by proxy; Forty-eighth New York Volunteers voted by proxy; Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 108; McClellan, 112. Seventy-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 152; McClellan, 76. Two hundred and third Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 419; McClellan, 206. Total number of votes cast, 1,073, of which 679 were Lincoln, 394 McClellan.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. PENNYPACKER,
Colonel Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 8, 1864.

Lieut. WILLIAM P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I respectfully ask that the detachment of the One hundred and sixteenth U. S. Colored Troops, now on duty at Deep Bottom, under command of Colonel Rand, shall be relieved and ordered to report to their regimental commander for duty. The reasons are:

First. They are illiterate freedmen from Kentucky and wholly unsuitable for provost guard.

Second. They are raw and undrilled, and need instruction as soldiers.

Third. They have not received the treatment promised all soldiers by the Government, although nominally several months soldiers. They have been kept on fatigue or detached service or unarmed, or so separated into squads as not to receive instruction as soldiers. Up to the 1st instant the regiment was scattered, a part being in Kentucky,

a part in this camp, a part at Dutch Gap, and a part at Deep Bottom, and a large portion of them employed in constant manual labor and fatigue duty, contrary to the express orders of the War Department.

Fourth. My division consisting of two brigades only, and being called upon to garrison four redoubts with infantry and furnish a large force of laborers at Dutch Gap, I submit to my superior officers that I should not be called upon to supply a provost-guard for Deep Bottom, where there is a large force of other troops, or a garrison for Fort Brady which is more properly the duty of the Eighteenth Corps.

Fifth. It is necessary to ascertain what has become of sixteen men not reported by Colonel Rand. In a communication he reports 206 men in the detachment at Deep Bottom, while the regimental records show 222. Unless this discrepancy is promptly looked into the result will be confusion in the returns.

Your obedient servant,

WM. BIRNEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 8, 1864.

Lieut. WILLIAM P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report the result of the voting to-day in this division as follows: First Brigade, Lincoln, 5; McClellan, 0. Second Brigade, Lincoln, 27; McClellan, 4. Total, Lincoln, 32; McClellan, 4.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. BIRNEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

Major-General TERRY:

Second New Hampshire, Lincoln, 65; McClellan, 4. Tenth New Hampshire, Lincoln, 14; McClellan, 46. Thirteenth New Hampshire, Lincoln, 86; McClellan, 40. Fifty-eighth Pennsylvania, Lincoln, 80, McClellan, 49. One hundred and eighty-eighth Pennsylvania, Lincoln, 204; McClellan, 174. Fifth Maryland, Lincoln, 213; McClellan, 21. Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania, Lincoln, 116; McClellan, 117. Ninth Vermont, Lincoln, 20; McClellan, 2. Eighth Maine, Lincoln, 179; McClellan, 15. Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Lincoln, 452; McClellan, 297. Nineteenth Wisconsin, Lincoln, 66; McClellan, 73. First Pennsylvania, Battery A, Lincoln, 53; McClellan, 23; officers of Provisional Brigade, Lincoln, 23; McClellan, 0; total, Lincoln, 1,571; McClellan, 861. Majority for Lincoln, 710.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIV., EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 8, 1864.

The frequency of desertions shows that there must be inefficiency on the part of the vedettes and pickets. No less than six men, not themselves belonging to the picket, are reported to have deserted during

the past night, one of whom has been apprehended. Vedettes and pickets will be instructed to instantly shoot, if they cannot apprehend, any man crossing the outer line of vedettes at night, and no man will be allowed to pass the picket-line in the daytime, unless in the presence and by permission of an officer of the picket, who must be present and see that the man so permitted to pass out returns. It will be the desire of the brigadier-general commanding the division to reward any soldier arresting or shooting any one found guilty of the infamous crime of desertion, and it is one of the most imperative duties of every good soldier to bring to justice the infamous wretches who basely desert their country's service. By proper vigilance at the picket-line, desertions to the enemy may be entirely prevented and effectually punished if attempted. Division and brigade officers of the day will see personally that the men are made acquainted with this order, and that it is transmitted to their successors, to be by them communicated to the men composing the pickets.

By command of Brig. Gen. Charles Devens:

GEO. A. BRUCE,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL BRIGADE, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Defenses of Bermuda Hundred, Va., November 8, 1864.

Lieut. R. DALE BENSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Provisional Division:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor herewith to forward you the result of election for electors for President and Vice-President in my command to-day:

Ninth Vermont Volunteers (detachment), Lincoln, 10; McClellan, 0. Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers (detachment), Lincoln, 18; McClellan, 1. Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers, Lincoln, 86; McClellan, 39. Two hundredth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 381; McClellan, 225. Two hundred and seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 441; McClellan, 202. Two hundred and eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 401; McClellan, 279. Two hundred and ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 311; McClellan, 254. Two hundred and eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 430; McClellan, 141. Total, Lincoln, 2,078; McClellan, 1,141. Majority for Lincoln, 937. Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania not heard from.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. POTTER,
Colonel Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

NEW YORK, *November 9, 1864.*

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The triumphant election of the President and the indications of a quiet acquiescence in the result render it unnecessary to detain here the troops under the command of General Butler, with the exception of about 500 regulars now in the interior of New York under General Peck. These I should like to detain about a week. As no exigency

exists in this department requiring the rest to be kept longer away from the Army of the Potomac, I deem it my duty to advise you promptly, that the necessary order may be given for their return.

JNO. A. DIX,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *November 9, 1864.*
(Received 9.50 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The Ninth Corps gives a Republican majority of 2,125. No other returns are yet received.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *November 9, 1864.*
(Received 10.45 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

The following official statement of the vote polled in the Army of the Potomac yesterday has just been received from General Meade: Maine, total vote, 1,677; Lincoln's majority, 1,143. New Hampshire, 515; Lincoln's majority, 279. Vermont, 102; Lincoln's majority, 42. Rhode Island, 190; Lincoln's majority, 134. Pennsylvania (seven counties to hear from), 11,122; Lincoln's majority, 3,494. West Virginia, 82; Lincoln's majority, 70. Ohio, 684; Lincoln's majority, 306. Wisconsin, 1,065; Lincoln's majority, 633. Michigan, 1,917; Lincoln's majority, 745. Maryland, 1,428; Lincoln's majority, 1,160. U. S. Sharpshooters, 124; Lincoln's majority, 89. New York, 305; Lincoln's majority, 113. Majority for Lincoln, 8,208.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 9, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Yesterday I was informed by Mr. Bonham, Republican agent of the State of Pennsylvania, that altered poll-books had been distributed in this army by Mr. Jeremiah McKibbin, Democratic agent of the State of Pennsylvania. I immediately directed the commanding officers of Pennsylvania regiments to put the soldiers and others on their guard, and ordered the provost-marshal-general to detain Mr. McKibbin for examination. During the day two individuals, named Miles and Carrigan, Democratic agents, were arrested in the Second Corps, charged with circulating these altered poll-books. The alterations consist in the improper spelling of names, and in the tally lists the omission of a name. I have placed the whole matter in the hands of the judge-advocate of this army, with directions to investigate the affair and report whether any fraud has been committed or was intended, and whether the evidence justifies the detention and trial of the persons above named. There is, however, great difficulty in settling these important questions from the ignorance in this army, particularly on my part, not only of the machinery of elections, but of the laws of Pennsylvania and their

bearing on the cases in point. In this point of view I desire the instructions of the department, and would respectfully suggest whether justice to all parties would not best be subserved by turning these persons, with all the evidence, over to the authorities of the State of Pennsylvania to have tried by the courts of that State the questions that may arise, or whether I shall send these individuals to the Department at Washington, to be tried by the military commission now sitting in Washington and trying analogous cases relating to New York soldiers. This proposition is not made with a view to avoid any duty which properly devolves on me, but with an earnest desire to have a proper and thorough investigation made, which, under the circumstances, I fear cannot be made by a commission organized in this army.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, *November 9, 1864—9 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch of this date, in reference to election frauds committed by McKibbin, Miles, and Carrigan, has been received this evening. The question of the liability to trial and punishment by military tribunal of persons guilty of such offenses has been fully considered by the Judge-Advocate-General and by the Department, and no doubt is entertained on the point. The Department approves your action in arresting McKibbin, Miles, and Carrigan. They can be tried with less difficulty here than in the field. You will cause them to be held in close custody until an officer can be sent with a guard to bring them here. If General Patrick is your provost-marshal-general the Department has not confidence in him; do not think that their safe keeping should be entirely left to him. Some vigilant officer, with a sufficient guard to prevent their escape and insure their safe custody, should be placed over them until the arrival of an officer to take them in charge. If their custody is intrusted to your provost-marshal apprehension is entertained that they will escape. You are therefore requested to take proper precautions to guard against this contingency. An officer will be sent from here to-morrow to take them in charge. You will also arrest any other persons who may be detected in perpetrating similar offenses and report them to this Department.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 9, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

Since my last dispatch I have been furnished with a copy of the State law of Pennsylvania, passed August 25, 1864, section 20 of which gives jurisdiction to the courts of the Commonwealth over all questions of fraud or illegality in relation to the voting of soldiers, and seems to meet the proposition I made that the individuals now in custody should be turned over to the Governor or other authority in that State. It may be well to add that Mr. Bonham, Republican agent, the complainant in these cases, desires this course pursued.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *November 9, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch of 1.30 p. m. received. The proposition to hand the three criminals over to the State authorities for trial is not approved. You will retain them in close custody until they are called for by an officer bearing the orders of this Department.

By order of the Secretary of War:

C. A. DANA.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 9, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Unusual quiet prevailed yesterday along the lines. The returns of the election were sent to you as received during the night. I am now preparing a consolidated return, showing the votes of each regiment by States, which, when completed, will be telegraphed. Early yesterday morning my attention was called to the existence and circulation of spurious poll-books in Pennsylvania regiments. I immediately notified all commanding officers of the fact, and directed the soldiers should be put on their guard. During the day two men were arrested in the Second Corps charged with circulating these false papers, and there being reason to believe one of the State agents was connected with the transaction I have directed he should be detained till an investigation now being made by the judge-advocate of this army shows whether or not there is ground for further action.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

AVERY'S HOUSE, *November 9, 1864—11 a. m.*

Captain TOWN:

A train of thirty-three wagons has passed court-house on Pocahontas road, going to our right. Another train of eighteen wagons on same road has halted to right of court-house. An unusual activity prevails in that vicinity this a. m. All quiet.

JANSEN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Enemy are engaged in putting up works in front of our picket-line and strengthening their works considerably in front of school-house. They have a working party of 400 men to the left of Whitworth battery, carrying logs.

JANSEN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Holman reports enemy strengthening their works near Fort Clifton.

TOWN.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 391. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, November 9, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

12. So much of Special Orders, No. 389, November 8, 1864, from this office, as directed Maj. Charles S. Stewart, Corps of Engineers, to repair to the headquarters of Lieutenant-General Grant and report to him for duty is hereby revoked.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 9, 1864.

Lieut. C. E. HARGOUS,
Commanding Provisional Camp:

SIR: If you have completed your work at Broadway Landing to Colonel Abbot's satisfaction, you will march your company to the neighborhood of Old Court-House and encamp on the ground lately vacated by the Eighth Delaware Battalion. Teams will be sent you in the morning for your tents and company property. Three teams will report to you at 8 a. m.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in the disposition of my troops since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864. (Received 7.35 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I desire to call your attention to the extract from the Richmond papers signed Charles H. Day, One hundred and eighty-eighth New York Volunteers, on eighth page of to-day's Herald. Two of the men captured on my picket-line by Mahone the other night have already arrived at their home in New York State, paroled by the enemy. Letters have been received from them which I have called for. The firing to-night was brought on, General Mott reports, by the enemy firing on the relief to his picket-line as it was going round. It was quite light in the early part of the evening.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 9, 1864—7.30 p. m.

General W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I do not find that the colors lost at Reams' Station are mentioned in the reports of that battle. The answers to a circular issued by you August 26, forwarded to us, show that the following organizations of your corps lost their colors on the occasion: Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, One hundred and sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, One hundred and eleventh New York Volunteers, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Batteries A and B, First Rhode Island Artillery, one guidon; Twelfth New York Battery, one guidon.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864. (Received 7.15 a. m. 10th.)

General HUMPHREYS:

A deserter just in from Eighth Alabama reports that Johnson's division is stretching out on the line, relieving Mahone; that Harris' brigade had been relieved when he left. He says the talk among the men was that one division was going back to put up winter quarters.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

The following is the result of the election on the 8th in the Second Division of this corps, this moment received: Lincoln, 555; McClellan, 357. Total Lincoln majority in corps by the rate of the 8th, 1,616. General Gibbon failed to report his returns by regiments.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

The following is the result of the election yesterday in the Second Division: One hundred and eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers. Lincoln, 160; McClellan, 94. Nineteenth Maine Volunteers, Lincoln 129; McClellan, 31. Fourth Ohio Volunteers, Lincoln, 49; McClellan 44. Seventh West Virginia Volunteers, Lincoln, 76; McClellan, 6 One hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Battalion, Lincoln, 15; McClellan 3; Sixty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 6; McClellan, 119 Thirty-sixth Wisconsin has no doubt given a majority of 25 or 30 fo Lincoln. The regiment polled about 180 votes, and exact returns o the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin will be forwarded as soon as received.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Grant.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

The following is the election returns of the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, First Brigade, Second Division, Second Army Corps: Lincoln, 86; McClellan, 51.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

The election results in the First Maine Heavy Artillery sum up, Lincoln, 212; McClellan, 22. This report could not sooner be sent, as part of this regiment is at Cedar Level and did not make their report till this moment.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Capt. J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Div., Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with directions from corps and division headquarters I have the honor to submit the following report on the deficiencies in the amount of rations that the men of my command should have on hand, according to the issues from the commissary department:

First. The deficiencies do not arise from wasting, except in one single article of food which has been lately issued to the men and proved very unsatisfactory to them. I mean the codfish, which cannot be conveniently cooked or carried by the men, which they positively dislike, and which, in many cases, they have thrown away. In fact, the substitution of codfish to meat rations has proved profitable to nobody but to the contractors who furnish the article to the Government.

Second. No voluntary wasting of rations has occurred, and any involuntary one is mostly attributable to the poor quality of the haversacks recently issued, which will not, in rainy weather, protect sufficiently the contents. The heavy rain that occurred during the recent movement on the Boydton road and those succeeding it (where the men on picket had no way to secure them from the weather) have damaged the rations, especially the bread, so as to make quite a deficiency.

Third. The duties of the men are heavy and the rations small, even when issued in full. But this is not always the case, as the men do not always receive their allowance of beans, potatoes, &c. There are also some complaints from company commanders that the men do not get full weight in the issues, and there is an instance (in the Seventeenth Maine Volunteers) where the rations of bread have been materially increased by a company commander insisting that the bread should be weighed.

Fourth. It is an acknowledged fact that the men eat more during the cold than during the warm weather, principally when working hard.

The fatigue duties have been heavy in this command in the beginning of the present month, and at all times the picket duty under fire is such as to induce the men to make the most of what provisions they have in their haversacks to satisfy their natural appetite. For these reasons I would respectfully and urgently recommend: First, that no reduction be made from the future rations to make up for the deficiencies in the rations already issued, as these deficiencies are, in my opinion, sufficiently justified. Second, that during the winter the allowance of hard bread, reduced from twelve ounces, be increased to sixteen ounces, as previously. Third, that no more than two days' rations be issued at the same time to the men while in camp, and whenever it is deemed necessary to have four days' on hand these be kept ready to be issued when the order to move is received, which will occasion very little delay and will secure the full amount required to be carried by the men in active operations.

Respectfully submitted.

R. DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during the last twenty-four hours. Five rebel deserters received and forwarded—three from Sixth Virginia Volunteers, one from Thirty-third North Carolina, one from Tenth Georgia Battalion.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nine regiments in the First Division (Griffin's) give 1,346 for Lincoln and 767 for McClellan. Second Division not heard from.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: The returns from Second Division are as follows: First Maryland, Republican, 425; Democratic, 2. Fourth Maryland, Republican, 272; Democratic, 0. Seventh Maryland, Republican, 304; Democratic, 30. Eighth Maryland, Republican, 227; Democratic, 12. One hundred and fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 58; Democratic, 7. One hundred and ninetieth Pennsylvania Volunteers,

Republican, 150; Democratic, 55. One hundred and ninety-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 122; Democratic, 70. Two hundred and tenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 261; Democratic, 186. I will forward a complete return this morning.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

The following are the particulars of the election as far as received: Battery B, First Pennsylvania Artillery, Republican, 50; Democratic, 33. First Division: One hundred and ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 356; Democratic, 243. Fourth Pennsylvania Cavalry, with One hundred and eighty-fifth New York, Republican, 20; Democratic, 11. First Michigan, Republican, 109; Democratic, 121. Twentieth Maine, Republican, 138; Democratic, 13. One hundred and eighteenth Pennsylvania, Republican, 130; Democratic, 64. Eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 117; Democratic, 32. Sixteenth Michigan, Republican, 78; Democratic, 81. Ninety-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 144; Democratic, 67. One hundred and fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 254; Democratic, 135. Third Division: Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 96; Democratic, 64. One hundred and twenty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 103; Democratic, 14. One hundred and forty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 140; Democratic, 57. Independent Battalion Wisconsin Volunteers, Republican, 70; Democratic, 1. Seventh Wisconsin Volunteers, Republican, 147; Democratic, 30. Sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, Republican, 126; Democratic, 36. One hundred and forty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 186; Democratic, 100. One hundred and forty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 188; Democratic, 102. One hundred and fiftieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 111; Democratic, 27. Twenty-fourth Michigan, Republican, 176; Democratic, 50. Sixteenth Maine, Republican, 152; Democratic, 61. Eighty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 135; Democratic, 62. Ninetieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 34; Democratic, 56. One hundred and seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 102; Democratic, 96. Eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Republican, 149; Democratic, 130. Provost Guard, Republican, 27; Democratic, 8.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

All quiet along our lines during the past twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report of the vote of the several regiments in this corps voting in the field: Fifty-first Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Lincoln, 253; McClellan, 145; Lincoln's majority, 108. Eighth Michigan Veteran Volunteers, Lincoln, 114; McClellan, 50; Lincoln's majority, 64. Twenty-seventh Michigan Volunteers, Lincoln, 104; McClellan, 50; Lincoln's majority, 54. Thirty-seventh Wisconsin Volunteers, Lincoln, 146; McClellan, 22; Lincoln's majority, 124. Thirty-eighth Wisconsin Volunteers, Lincoln, 282; McClellan, 76; Lincoln's majority, 206. Thirteenth Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, Lincoln, 133; McClellan, 65; Lincoln's majority, 68. Second Michigan Volunteers, Lincoln, 79; McClellan, 25; Lincoln's majority, 54. First Michigan Sharpshooters, Lincoln, 91; McClellan, 35; Lincoln's majority, 56. Twentieth Michigan Volunteers, Lincoln, 153; McClellan, 35; Lincoln's majority, 118. Fiftieth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Lincoln, 151; McClellan, 83; Lincoln's majority, 68. Sixtieth Ohio Volunteers, Lincoln, 93; McClellan, 41; Lincoln's majority, 52. One hundredth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lincoln, 212; McClellan, 41; Lincoln's majority, 171. Third Maryland Veteran Volunteers, Lincoln, 25; McClellan, 33; McClellan's majority, 8. Seventeenth Michigan Volunteers, Lincoln, 148; McClellan, 46; Lincoln's majority, 102. Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Lincoln, 97; McClellan, 19; Lincoln's majority, 78. Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, Lincoln, 242; McClellan, 48; Lincoln's majority, 194. Sixth New Hampshire Veteran Volunteers, Lincoln, 100; McClellan, 18; Lincoln's majority, 82. Ninth New Hampshire Veteran Volunteers, Lincoln, 85; McClellan, 18; Lincoln's majority, 67. Eleventh New Hampshire Veteran Volunteers, Lincoln, 135; McClellan, 51; Lincoln's majority, 84. Seventeenth Vermont, Lincoln, 72; McClellan, 30; Lincoln's majority, 42. Thirty-first Maine Volunteers, Lincoln, 108; McClellan, 21; Lincoln's majority, 87. Thirty-second Maine Volunteers, Lincoln, 68; McClellan, 31; Lincoln's majority, 37. Second Maryland Volunteers, Lincoln, 41; McClellan, 57; McClellan's majority, 16. Seventh Rhode Island, Lincoln, 150; McClellan, 28; Lincoln's majority, 122. Battery D, Pennsylvania Artillery, Lincoln, 58; McClellan, 27; Lincoln's majority, 31. Seventh Maine Battery, Lincoln, 87; McClellan, 9; Lincoln's majority, 78. Lincoln, 1,234; McClellan, 348; Lincoln's majority, 902; McClellan's majority, 24.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
November 9, 1864.

Brigade commanders will continue the system of sending frequent scouting parties in front of their lines to observe all (if any) movements of the enemy. Great care will be observed in sending out parties to avoid surprise by the enemy.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

Captain SEALY:

Please send an order to the commanding officer at Fort Brady to picket between the left of General Weitzel's picket-line and the river by details from his force. Let it be done to-night.

A. H. TERRY.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General AMES:

GENERAL: The enemy's cavalry in some force attacked our pickets beyond Fussell's Mills and at the junction of the Charles City and Long Bridge roads, but they were driven back. I think it best to commence the construction of the rifle-pits spoken of to-night. I will send Captain Eaton to mark out the line, and I can send you at least 500 shovels. A mere pit (ditch inside) is all that is wanted, and it can be pretty well completed by morning, or at least so far advanced as to aid materially in case of attack.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 9, 1864.

BRIGADE COMMANDERS:

It being reported that the enemy are advancing down the Charles City road, the commanding general directs that you make every necessary arrangement to have your command ready in case it may be called upon. You will be governed by the verbal instructions received the other morning. Police guards will be instructed to call the troops upon the first alarm.

Respectfully,

T. ELLERY LORD,
Capt., 3d Infty., N. Y. Vols., Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
November 9, 1864—10.07 p. m.

General WEITZEL:

I think it very likely the cavalry have pushed out long distances and their movements have undoubtedly caused some speculation. I never place much reliance on the first reports from the cavalry. I expect to hear again soon. I will keep you advised.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
November 9, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General WEITZEL:

I have just got another report. The enemy's force consisted of cavalry. They made a dash on our pickets beyond Fussell's Mills, and at the junction of the Charles City and Long Bridge roads, but were driven back. All is quiet at present.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 9, 1864.

General WEITZEL:

I have just got a report from Colonel West that the enemy are advancing in heavy force down the Charles City road. I don't know yet whether the report is to be depended upon.

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH CORPS:

The general commanding desires you to have your command in readiness to move at any hour during the night. Please give such orders as will insure promptness and celerity if a movement becomes necessary.

G. A. BRUCE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 136. } HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 9, 1864.

There have been entirely too many desertions from our lines during the last few days. These desertions have been from the miserable wretches, bounty-jumpers, &c., who have entered the service for the sake of the money they received. Hereafter every man who moves beyond the picket-line without authority must be shot, if possible, at once. Every enlisted man who kills any one in the act of deserting, or stops him by wound or arrest while in the act, will be recommended by the general commanding this corps for a twenty days' furlough, and will undoubtedly receive it. Every officer in command of a regimental or brigade picket-line will hereafter be held strictly accountable for any desertions from his part of the line.

By command of Brevet Major-General Weitzel:

D. D. WHEELER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES DEVENS,
Commanding First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: In case any deserters from the enemy come into our lines, or any prisoners of war are taken to-night, the general commanding desires them sent at once to these headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. D. WHEELER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

DIVISION OFFICER OF THE DAY:

CAPTAIN: You will please have the necessary instructions given at once to the picket-line to forward immediately any deserter. See that unusual vigilance is observed by the pickets.

By command of Brigadier-General Devens:

G. A. BRUCE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, November 9, 1864.

Capt. ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have ordered the detail required by Major-General Terry, but I consider it my duty to say that the force under my command cannot stand it. The details for picket and other services are already so heavy that the men have no time for drill; besides the recent rains have so weakened the works in front that I have made requisition for tools to put them in order, and when supplied it was my intention to put all the men who could be spared at work upon them.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *November 10, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Orders have been made requiring the immediate return of all troops to the field, and the utmost diligence of the Department will be directed to that object. General Dix reports that all of Butler's troops, except 500 regulars, can return. A copy of his dispatch* is given. Before ordering Butler back, I will wait a day until the New York election is more definitely ascertained.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, *November 10, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

Enough now seems to be known to say who is to hold the reins of Government for the next four years. Congratulate the President for me for the double victory. The election having passed off quietly, no bloodshed or riot throughout the land, is a victory worth more to the country than a battle won. Rebeldom and Europe will so construe it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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*See Dix to Stanton, November 9, p. 569.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 10, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

I would respectfully recommend the promotion of Brig. Gen. R. Ingalls, now brigadier-general of volunteers, to the same grade, by brevet, in the Regular Army, to take rank as such from the 16th day of June, 1864, the date of his assuming the duties of chief quartermaster of the combined armies operating against Richmond. This is also the date of the crossing of the James River, after the campaign from the Rapidan, by the Army of the Potomac. For his promotion by brevet in the intermediate grades between that of major (General Ingalls' present army rank) and that of brigadier-general I would respectfully recommend that dates given in a previous recommendation for his promotion be followed. For the skillful manner in which General Ingalls has conducted the affairs in his department he deserves this recognition of his services. He was the first officer of his department, I believe, who proved capable of organizing and running all the machinery in it for the Army of the Potomac. There has been no other army in the United States where the duties of quartermaster have been so well performed. The services of General Ingalls are too well understood at Washington to make it necessary for me to add more than my testimony that since I have been directly with the armies where he has acted as chief quartermaster his services have been all that could be asked, and such as but few could perform.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 10, 1864—11 a. m.*
(Received 12 m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

I suppose, without my saying anything about it, all the troops now in the North will be hurried to the field, but I wish to urge this as of the utmost importance. Sherman's movement may compel Lee to send troops from Richmond, and if he does I want to be prepared to annoy him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 10, 1864—8 a. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch of 9 p. m. yesterday is received. The prisoners, Miles, Carrigan, and McKibbin, are at these headquarters, and will be delivered when the officer you send arrives. Since writing my dispatch of yesterday I have arrested two more persons, named Riehl and Biern, as having been engaged in distributing the spurious poll-books. These prisoners are under the immediate charge of Capt. A. J. Dallas, Twelfth U. S. Infantry. Brigadier-General Patrick, the provost-marshal of this army, acts also in the same capacity at General Grant's headquarters at City Point.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *November 10 1864.*

General MEADE:

Owing to the reported movement of a portion of Hill's corps to the north side of the Appomattox, I have ordered General Benham to send back to Bermuda the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania, which belongs to General Butler's command. Benham has left 2,500 men, which is a sufficient force.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following deserters from the enemy have been received to-day: One from Twenty-third South Carolina, Evans' brigade, Johnson's division; one from Thirteenth South Carolina, McGowan's brigade, Wilcox's division; one from Eighth Alabama, Wilcox's old brigade, Mahone's division; also a prisoner of war from Seventh Tennessee, Archer's brigade, Heth's division. The only information of importance elicited was that there is a movement in Mahone's division. Wilcox's old brigade was lying in reserve when informant left last night. Harris' brigade was to be relieved from the trenches last evening by Elliott's (South Carolina) brigade, of Johnson's division. Johnson's division was extending its line toward the right. Informant knew of no brigades being on the move except Harris'; was a rumor that Mahone's division was going to Chaffin's Bluff or Dutch Gap. Considerably many conscripts received in Wilcox's old brigade. No regiment over 250 strong. Brigade musters about 1,000 muskets, including conscripts.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

NOTE.—No change in enemy's position reported except Harris' brigade being withdrawn and Johnson's division extending to the right.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
November 10, 1864—1.25 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Camps west of Weldon railroad, consisting of about one division, are being broken up, a part moving west, about 1,400 moving into line of works and front of and to our right of large fort, and the remainder remaining in camps, with tents struck. Arms appear glistening, moving to the left over the tops of works in the vicinity of lead-works, but the works prevent a view of the men or their numbers.

CAROTHERS.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Aiken reports from Fort Howard station:

At 2 p. m. about 1,200 infantry left the works east of and near Butterworth's house and went into camp in the works south and west and around the lead-works.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The plank road station reports:

2.45 P. M.

Troops reported as moving west from camps, west of the Weldon railroad, have returned and joined the 1,400 in line of works. Those remaining in camps have pitched tents, and those reported as moving left from vicinity of lead-works, numbered about 100 and joined the main column. A column numbering about 700 in line south of large fort, west of Weldon railroad, between main line of works and woods.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

(Forwarded to Major-General Warren.)

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The plank road station reports:

At sundown 1,100 infantry came in from the west through works to the right of large fort west of Weldon railroad, halted in camp vacated this p. m. Two pieces of artillery came up from Warren's front as far as large fort and filed westward and disappeared in woods. Infantry, in squads of two and three, have been leaving works at different points from lead-works toward the left (our left), and joining the main force to the left. The column reported in line between works and woods south of large fort is still there.

The enemy seems to be uneasy west of the Weldon railroad.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

Perhaps the movements of drilling and maneuvering in the Ninth Corps may be the cause of this.

A. A. H.,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 10, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade and Defenses of City Point:

Order the Two hundred and fifth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers to proceed immediately, via Broadway Landing, to Bermuda, and there report to Colonel Potter, commanding defenses, for orders.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. C. F. WALCOTT,
Commanding Sixty-first Massachusetts:

You will immediately send 200 of your men with their officers to relieve the pickets of the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, now covering Bailey's Creek on the left of the line. As soon as possible you will move the balance of your command to Old Court-House, and occupy the camp of the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, which will be vacated to-night. You can leave some thirty men at your present camp as a guard until morning, when you can remove your property. You will relieve Col. J. A. Mathews of the command at Old Court-House and of the picket-line on Bailey's Creek, receiving from him all the information he can give as to the roads, &c., in his front. The pickets must be relieved with all possible dispatch. Of course, the orders you have received from Captain Chester will not be carried out.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 10, 1864.

Col. J. A. MATHEWS,
Comdg. Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers:

On being relieved by the Sixty-first Massachusetts, you will with your command proceed immediately, via Broadway Landing, to Bermuda, and there report to Colonel Potter, commanding defenses, for orders. This is in compliance with orders from headquarters Armies of the United States. You will give Lieutenant-Colonel Walcott, who relieves you, all possible information as to the country and roads in front of your picket-lines. This order must be executed with all possible dispatch.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—You will move with one-half of your regiment as soon as possible, leaving your lieutenant-colonel to follow with the remainder and your pickets, as soon as they can be relieved.

By order of General Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

There has been no change in my lines since last report. There was some sharp picket-firing as mentioned in my dispatch of 12 p. m.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to invite the attention of the major-general commanding to the following remarks:

General Mott's division, of my corps, took up the intrenched line near Petersburg from near the Norfolk railroad to the left on the 20th of August. On the 24th of September the other two divisions relieved the Tenth Army Corps, holding the line from the Norfolk railroad to the river. My corps has held the entire line from Battery No. 24 to Redoubt Converse since that time, Mott's division having been withdrawn on one occasion for a few days, Mott and Gibbon for a few days during the operations of October 26th, 27th, and 28th, and Miles' division for two days after the return of Mott's and Gibbon's division. With these exceptions, when the troops were withdrawn to participate in movements against the enemy, my command has been under fire in front of Petersburg for two months and a half, holding the only part of the lines of the army in close proximity to the enemy. They have been subjected night and day to the fire of artillery, and have frequently been engaged in considerable picket skirmishes. I have about 2,000 men on picket daily, and 1,600 of these are in action, it may be said, day and night. The troops in the inclosed works and rifle-pits are subjected to a constant fire from the enemy's mortars and are obliged to live in underground holes and bomb-proofs, and are called upon almost nightly to get under arms and to be in readiness to resist an attack. They cannot even walk about in safety in their own camp on account of the danger of stray bullets, mortar shells, or the fire of sharpshooters. They have no opportunity for drill or instruction. My command is composed largely of new men. From the left of my corps to the left of the army, I believe there is hardly a place where the enemy are in sight. The troops are not harassed by being called up in the night, or by constant skirmishing during the day, and their camps are not disturbed by the enemy's artillery. They are comfortably camped by regiments and brigades, with abundant opportunity for exercise, drill, and instruction. I submit that my command has been a long time without rest and in a state of constant and wearing strain, and has been very disadvantageously situated in every respect compared with the other corps. I do not speak of it complainingly, and do not know that there is any remedy for it, but consider it a proper matter to lay before the major-general commanding the army.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: Your letter of this date, inviting attention to the length of time (two and a half months) the Second Corps has been on duty in the trenches in the immediate presence of the enemy, has been laid before the major-general commanding, by whom I am directed to say in reply that as it appears upon examination that the Fifth and Ninth

Corps have each, since arriving in front of Petersburg, been in the trenches and under the fire of the enemy for a period of at least two months, it is not deemed advisable to make at the present moment any change in the positions of the several corps.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The chief engineer reports that a party will be sent to-night to make the necessary repairs to the obstructions in front of Fort Haskell, as asked for in the letter of Brigadier-General Egan, forwarded by you yesterday.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that last night about 8 p. m. sharp musketry firing took place on the picket-line on the center. The enemy's sharpshooters were driven out of the barn in front and to the left of Fort Davis by Clark's battery (B), First New Jersey. Two hundred and eighty-one rounds of ammunition expended; no casualties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

I have the honor to report that a flag of truce (white handkerchief) is flying in front of Battery 18, at which point there is no firing, and that the enemy are busily engaged in digging under its protection. A few mortar shells would drive them out.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the past twenty-four hours. No deserters to report.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 10, 1864.

General WARREN:

The commanding general desires that you will report approximately what length of time your command has been in the trenches in the immediate presence of the enemy since it arrived in front of Petersburg.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that this command has been in the trenches in the immediate presence of the enemy all the time since it arrived at Petersburg, with the exception that on July 30 one division and one brigade were held in reserve to support the column of attack, and on August 14 the whole corps was relieved by the Ninth, and was in reserve until the 18th, when it moved to the Weldon railroad.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that this corps occupied the trenches before Petersburg in the immediate presence and under the fire of the enemy from the 17th of June to the 19th day of August. A portion of the line we now hold is in plain view from the enemy's line; this has been occupied since the 2d of October.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIGADE, SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
November 10, 1864.

Capt. A. H. BIBBER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that yesterday (the 9th) a scouting party from this command, under the direction of Captain

Harmony, assistant inspector-general, was sent in the direction of Wood's Shop and Reams' Station. The party surprised six of the enemy near Wood's Shop while at a house getting dinner. Five made their escape by taking to the woods; one was captured. Subsequently, one other prisoner was taken and the two brought in. The party also drove in eleven head of cattle.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. H. SMITH,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
City Point:

A small party of the enemy's cavalry made a dash on our pickets near Fussell's Mills and the junction of the Charles City and Long Bridge roads. They were soon repulsed without loss.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 10, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY,
Army of the James:

The enemy have a cavalry force at Hopewell Church, probably sent there to prevent such raids as that of last week. If your cavalry is in good condition I think it would be well to drive them out. As large a force as you can send should go for that purpose.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. TENTH ARMY CORPS, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 10, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The cavalry are in good condition and about 1,500 men could be taken out. Is the Hopewell Church referred to the one north of the York River Railroad, about two miles from Tunstall's Station and six miles from White House?

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

CITY POINT, *November 10, 1864.* (Received 5.40 p. m.)

Major-General TERRY:

The Hopewell Church referred to is about two miles from Jones' Bridge. I don't want the cavalry to cross the Chickahominy, but to get out near to it and above Jones' Bridge, sweeping down from there to below the bridge.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 10, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY:

Your forces at Bermuda must be watchful. The movement of a portion of Hill's corps north of the Appomattox may indicate an attack there, or they may have gone on north of the James to attack you. If we are not surprised there is no danger of the result.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864—8.27 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

GENERAL: I have received your dispatch relative to the movement of a portion of Hill's corps. I was about to order the cavalry to move on Hopewell Church, so as to strike it at daylight to-morrow morning. Will this movement of Hill make any change in your order relative to Hopewell Church?

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 10, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY:

It will now be better to keep your cavalry to watch the movements of the enemy. They had better push out in the morning to discover if any movement is on foot, but not to go on the expedition ordered to-day.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 10, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY:

I think there is no possible probability of the enemy attacking your front anywhere from the New Market road to the fort at Signal Hill. It would be advisable, therefore, to have all the reserves [moved] from that line, leaving only a thin support for it, in readiness to move to any point.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 10, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY:

I have ordered back to Bermuda Hundred the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers. This regiment numbers 1,000 men, and will give you the means of drawing from Colonel Potter if you should require re-enforcements north of the James.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Colonel SMITH:

Please send me by telegraph the aggregate of the force of infantry at Bermuda Hundred; also the artillery.

A. H. TERRY.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
November 10, 1864.

Major-General TERRY:

Infantry force at Bermuda present, 154 officers and 3,428 men; heavy artillery, 34 officers and 936 men. This includes the force on the south side of the Appomattox. The light artillery reports to chief of artillery of Eighteenth Corps. I have telegraphed for its strength.

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 10, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. M. BARNEY,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: An attack is expected to-morrow morning. At reveille the troops will be put under arms. The verbal instructions given you the other day by the general commanding will be carried out. You will move with full ranks promptly and form your brigade on the New Market road, with your left resting at the junction of the New Market and Mill roads, your right down the road ready to move at any point. All men not able to march will be sent to the breast-works. Reveille will be sounded at 4.30 a. m., but the general commanding suggests the propriety of having your command up long enough before that time to allow the men to have a cup of coffee.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

T. ELLERY LORD,
Captain, Third Infantry New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER NINTH MAINE VOLUNTEERS:

You will form your command at 4.30 a. m. to-morrow, the right of the Ninth Maine Volunteers resting opposite Colonel Pennypackers' headquarters on the New Market road, the One hundred and sixty-ninth New York Volunteers immediately in rear of the Ninth Maine Volunteers. The One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers will occupy the breast-works and be ready to move if called upon. You will have coffee served out to the men before placing your men as above designated. Each of the commands will be at the positions severally designated above promptly.

LOUIS BELL,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

(Same to Commanding Officers One hundred and sixty-ninth and One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers.)

NOVEMBER 10, 1864—10.55 p. m.

Colonel RAND,
Deep Bottom:

A part of Hill's corps is reported to be moving to the north of the Appomattox. It may be moving against the Bermuda lines or against us here. Keep a bright lookout. Notify Colonel Martindale.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 10, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL:

The following is just received and is transmitted for your information:

CITY POINT, *November 10, 1864.*

Brevet Major-General TERRY:

Information has just been received from the Army of the Potomac to the effect that there are indications that a portion of A. P. Hill's corps is moving north of Appomattox.

JNO. MCENTEE,
Captain in Charge of Secret Service Department.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Major-General TERRY:

I believe that the enemy's movements mean only this, that he expects an attack from us somewhere, and is putting a part of Hill's corps to meet any emergency.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Major-General TERRY:

Had you not better inform General Grant that the Bermuda line is very weak?

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 10, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL:

Graham will have on his Bermuda line 4,000 infantry. Of course he could be re-enforced from your left much more readily than from elsewhere. Would it not be well for you to re-enforce him at once on hearing sufficient fire to denote a serious attack, and then I could re enforce you. I shall have a brigade of cavalry in reserve to send speedily there or elsewhere in case of need. Not counting horse-holders they will have 600 breech-loading rifles. Ames will form a reserve of 4,000 men ready to move at reveille to-morrow morning.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 10, 1864.

Major-General TERRY:

I will re-enforce the Bermuda front, as soon as I am convinced that there is a real attack, by my First Division, under General Devens, about 2,000 men. I will then have about 6,000 fighting men left.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

In accordance with the foregoing telegram General Paine will have his largest reserve brigade in readiness to relieve General Devens' division of this corps. General Devens will hold his division in readiness to re-enforce the Bermuda front, leaving his picket-line.

By command of Brevet Major-General Weitzel:

D. D. WHEELER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There are four light batteries from this corps on the Bermuda front, with twenty-four guns and 547 men for duty.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

NOVEMBER 10, 1864—6 p. m.

Lieutenant AMSDEN,
Signal Tower on James River:

General Weitzel directs that a very strict watch be kept on all movements of the enemy to-night at the signal stations.

PARTRIDGE,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 10, 1864.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

Your telegram received. Orders have been sent to pickets to be very vigilant, and the troops and batteries likewise. My lookouts report three trains down and only one up during the last twenty-four hours. Any information received will be transmitted at once.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRAHAM:

In case you are seriously attacked General Weitzel will at once send you re-enforcements from his left.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

NOVEMBER 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRAHAM,
Hatcher's:

Please inform me what number of officers and men you have south of the Appomattox, exclusive of the detachment with the pontoon.

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S, *November 10, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH:

South of the Appomattox River I have three companies, Third Pennsylvania Artillery, at Spring Hill; one serving as artillery and two as infantry. Their aggregate present for duty, six officers and 250 men. Also, at Broadway Landing, attached to the ordnance depot, a detachment of the Eleventh Connecticut, two officers and eighty-nine men.

C. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
November 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRAHAM:

General Grant telegraphs me that he has ordered back to Bermuda the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1,000 strong. How many men shall you have on your line between the Appomattox and the James after their arrival?

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

P. S.—If you think best you can recall all the men detailed for work on the new hospital buildings. See that your pickets are very vigilant, and if they observe any indications please communicate with me at once.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 10, 1864.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

Your telegram received. I shall have 4,600 infantry on the line between the James and the Appomattox, including the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH CORPS,
November 10, 1864—11.07 p. m.

Brigadier-General GRAHAM:

Have the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers returned yet? Do you feel strong enough to hold your lines? Have you, in addition to your 4,000 infantry, any heavy artillery serving as infantry?

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 10, 1864.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

The Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers have not reported. I have no heavy artillery serving as infantry with the exception of two companies at Spring Hill, on the south bank of the Appomattox. We shall do our best to hold the line in case of attack.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
November 11, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

Troops sent North have been ordered back to their commands. When will you be up to make annual report?

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 11, 1864—5 p. m.*
(Received 5.40 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The Secretary of War has excused me from making a report until the end of this campaign. I could not go now, as the enemy has been very busy last night and to-day moving troops, apparently with the intention of attacking both south of the Appomattox and north of the James; probably the latter to be the main attack, if any is made.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 11, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: In compliance with the order of the Department, I have this day turned over to Lieut. Col. J. H. Taylor the persons of Jeremiah McKibbin, John Riehl, Frank Biern, Robert S. Miles, and Patrick Carrigan, arrested by me and charged respectively with circulating fraudulent poll-books in Pennsylvania regiments, tending to vitiate the elec-

tion returns. In the cases of McKibbin, Riehl, and Biern, these charges rest on the statements of J. A. Bonham, agent of the State of Pennsylvania, and others; in the cases of Miles and Carrigan, on the letter of Brigadier-General Miles and other officers and men. With the inclosed rolls I hand over to Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor all the papers in these cases; also, the opinion of the judge-advocate of this army, to whom the matter was referred for a preliminary investigation, prior to the receipt of your order to send these persons to Washington.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *November 11, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

If Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor has not yet left City Point please turn over to him the persons concerned in election frauds arrested by you since his orders were issued. If he has left, please send them here to the Old Capitol Prison, under sufficient guard.

By order of Secretary of War:

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 11, 1864—1 p. m.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington:

Your dispatch just received. Prior to its receipt I had turned over to Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor the five prisoners arrested in this army for circulating fraudulent poll-books, and also all the papers relating to their several cases.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 11, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing particular to report beyond the usual picket-firing on the Second Corps front. Signal officers report a movement of the enemy toward their left within their lines. I send you the dispatches. I am not able to judge from them that this movement is anything but a change of position in some of the troops. Corps commanders have been notified to be on the *qui vive*, and if anything further occurs it will be duly reported. I have this morning turned over to Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor, from Washington, the political prisoners arrested in this army, to be taken by him, under the orders of the War Department, to Washington.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 11, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

The enemy have been moving on General Terry's front all day, apparently massing troops to our right. At same time there appear to be troops massed north of the James, below our left, on the river. These are probably the troops reported yesterday to have left Hill's corps. If the enemy should attack Terry, it will be out of the question to re-enforce him from you, but be prepared to attack at Petersburg, either by moving to the left or on some weak point in front, as may seem best. The movements of the enemy may mean nothing, but they will bear watching.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 11, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK:

The following dispatch is communicated to you for your information and guidance.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Warren, Parke, and Gregg.)

[Inclosure.]

CITY POINT, VA., *November 11, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

If possible to prevent to-day's papers getting into the hands of the enemy, prevent it. They all contain news from the West most decidedly contraband.*

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Four conscript deserters have been forwarded that came into the lines of the Ninth Army Corps this morning. They are from the Eighteenth North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division. Left their brigade lying just to the rear and (our) left of the Jones house, where it has been lying for the last two weeks. It was understood that the brigade would move to-day a little farther to the right. Was told so by the men that came out from the trenches last night. Informants do not know of any movement, except a rumor that the whole army is extending its line farther to the right. No change had been made when they left to their knowledge.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

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*See Grant to Stanton and Stanton to Grant, Vol. XXXIX, Part III, p. 740.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserter from Eighth Alabama, received yesterday, thought Mahone's division (or part of it) was going to Dutch Gap. Gave no reasons for thinking so other than it was so rumored in his regiment. There has been a movement to the right, indicating a withdrawal of some portion of their force. The deserters received yesterday and to-day report the movement to the right.

Respectfully,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal station at Fort Davis has just reported:

At 9.30 a. m. a column of infantry, numbering about 1,200, came from direction of Petersburg and halted in vicinity of large fort; immediately after, another column, numbering about 1,800, came from same direction, joined the 1,200, and all moved west on road south of large fort. Ten mounted men preceded the first column; apparently a general and staff. Infantry in works and woods in vicinity of large fort have also moved off in the same direction; counted twelve colors; column moving rapidly.

The station at the Walthall house reports:

Camp in rear of works near Whitehead's Factory disappeared last night. One regiment of infantry drilling on Cemetery Hill, and one company near lead mine.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following has just been received from the signal officer at Fifth Corps headquarters:

The Fort Howard station sees the Boydton plank road from a point half a mile northeast of lead-works to one-quarter of a mile southwest of the same place. The Church road station sees part of the same road from a point one-quarter of a mile west of toll-gate to a point three-quarters of a mile northeast from the junction of the Duncan road with the plank road. It also sees a part of the Duncan road at J. Boisseau's, and of the Durfee road at Doctor Durfee's. The reports from these stations this a. m. indicate that three columns, say about three brigades, numbering at most 6,000 men, and two pieces of artillery, have passed westward since 9 o'clock this a. m., the infantry being seen as far west on the plank road as can be seen from the Church road station.

DAVIS,
Captain.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 11, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: The signal station near Fort Howard reports at 1.15 p.m.:

Two pieces of artillery moved west on Boydton plank road, first seen at lead-works, and each drawn by eight horses. A small working party is engaged on old works east of large fort near Butterworth's house.

The station near the Church road reports at 12 m.:

Another column of infantry, followed by six wagons and three ambulances, is moving westward on Boydton plank road. The column marched well closed up and was ten minutes in passing a point about northwest from this station.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Enemy has commenced a new line of works in rear of front line near lead-works. All quiet.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 394. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, November 11, 1864.

* * * * * * *

54. At the expiration of his present leave of absence Brigadier-General Cutler, U. S. Volunteers, will repair to Jackson, Mich., and relieve Lieut. Col. G. S. Wormer, Eighth Michigan Cavalry, in the command of the draft rendezvous at that place. Lieutenant-Colonel Wormer, on being relieved, will obey such instructions as Brigadier-General Cutler may give him.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There has been no change on my line reported. About 3 a. m. I received a note from officer of the day saying that a very suspicious silence prevailed on the enemy's line, and he had had scouts within twenty yards of their line without being fired on. Since daylight, however, I have heard nothing and do not attach much importance to the matter.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 11, 1864.

Major-General HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The enemy appear to be concentrating on the north side of the James, and also moving toward our left. The commanding general directs that corps commanders caution their pickets and lookouts to watch closely for any appearances of the troops holding the lines in their front being materially weakened, and that the troops be held ready to move at brief notice.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Generals Warren, Parke, and Gregg.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November [*11*], *1864.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A deserter, Private Y. T. Mann, Forty-sixth Virginia Volunteers, has just been brought to my headquarters. He says that on last Monday night the enemy withdrew a South Carolina brigade and two North Carolina regiments, of Johnson's division, from their front line. He says these troops marched from their line of battle into Petersburg and went away, but he does not know whether they were taken away in the cars or whether they marched off.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

The following* is published for the information and guidance of commanders, who will use every exertion to enforce the order. Attention is called to the date of the dispatch.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

C. J. MILLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

It is evident that "to-day's papers" spoken of in the dispatch from General Grant just published means the papers received here, *i. e.*, those of November 10. Commanders will be governed accordingly.

By command of Major-General Hancock:

C. J. MILLS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Grant to Meade, relating to newspapers, p. 597.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that with the exception of some heavy skirmishing in front of Fort Davis nothing of importance has occurred on the line during the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: Lieut. Col. S. A. Moore succeeding to the command of the Third Brigade by virtue of his senior authority, I have the honor to recommend that he remain in command during the absence of Brigadier-General Smyth.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

CAMP ELEVENTH NEW JERSEY VOLUNTEERS,
November 11, 1864.

Col. R. MCALLISTER,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: The pickets report that from the noise heard the enemy must have been moving troops away from our front or from our right toward the left. A rumbling of wagons and barking of dogs was heard throughout the night as if from a large body of troops in motion.

Respectfully,

C. F. GAGE,
Captain and Officer of the Day.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on my lines during the last twenty-four hours. No deserters received.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

In order to carry out the request* of the lieutenant-general I have directed my provost-marshal to seize all the papers of the news agent.

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* See Grant to Meade, p. 597.

These papers are now in his possession, but I understand that agents have been selling these papers along the railroad from City Point to Warren's Station. It would, therefore, seem hardly fair to prohibit our agent from selling. I have sent our division commanders stringent orders in reference to allowing papers to be exchanged on the picket-line. Shall I retain these papers or turn them over to the agent?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 11, 1864.

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The newspapers have been allowed to come to the army from City Point, and General Meade says it is unnecessary to restrain your agents from disposing of them as usual. Care should be taken, however, to prevent them from reaching the enemy through the pickets.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, Va., November 11, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General CURTIN,
Commanding First Brigade, Second Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general requests that you give instructions that unusual vigilance be maintained upon the lines to-night, and that every movement of the enemy be carefully watched and reported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. LYDIG,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
November 11, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Reports from my pickets are to effect that no changes are observed. A scouting party sent on the Quaker road north of the Norfolk railroad to-day met a scouting party of the enemy about three miles beyond our lines. Two of our men were wounded. A stronger party than the first was sent in pursuit of the guerrillas, but has not yet been heard from. My scouting parties are considerably annoyed by guerrillas or scouting parties of the enemy.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
November 11, 1864.

Col. M. KERWIN,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

COLONEL: Intelligence from headquarters Army of the Potomac states that the enemy are moving toward our left and rear. You are directed to instruct your pickets to be very vigilant and report all movements of the enemy promptly.

By command of Brig. Gen. D. McM. Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 17. } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, November 11, 1864.

General Orders, No. 15, from these headquarters, is hereby revoked. Commanders of brigades will be held responsible for the portion of the picket-line picketed by their brigades. The First Brigade will, in connection with its picket duty, patrol the road beyond Fussell's Mills to such distance as will render surprise of the picket-line from that direction impossible. The Second Brigade will patrol the Long Bridge road to such distance as will render surprise of its picket-line from that direction impossible.

By command of Col. Robert M. West:

THEO. H. SCHENCK,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *November 11, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
New York City:

The Secretary of War directs that the troops taken to New York by you be returned to the field as promptly as possible. Acknowledge receipt, and report when the troops have embarked.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to Major-General Dix.)

NEW YORK CITY, *November 11, 1864.*
(Received 6.35 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Telegram received. The troops shall be embarked as soon as transports can be had. Have sent for the regulars, who are on the border. Your telegram gives me no orders. I have some private business which will detain me until Monday. Will the Secretary allow my stay?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

WASHINGTON, *November 11, 1864—9 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Your telegram of this date to General Townsend has just been brought to my house. General Grant is urgent for the return of your troops quickly. The order contemplated your return with them, and if not specified in the official telegram it was omitted by the inadvertence of the Adjutant-General. You have leave to remain until Monday if you desire to do so.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 11, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

All has been quiet here this morning, but I have just received the following dispatch from General Weitzel.*

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 11, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Since sending my last dispatch I have received the following from General Weitzel:†

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 11, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY:

Let me know the preparation you are making in consequence of the movements of the enemy. Movements south of the Appomattox and your front indicate some attempt on the part of the enemy. I am really anxious to see them take the initiative, but don't want to give them the advantage of a surprise.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch received. As to the Bermuda lines, Graham has 4,000 infantry besides his artillery. In case of attack there Weitzel will at once, on hearing firing, move 2,000 men over the river. More can be sent if necessary. In case of attack on our right and rear, Weitzel can move 4,000 men, still leaving his lines in front sufficiently manned.

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* See Weitzel to Terry, beginning—A column of troops, p. 606.
† See Weitzel to Terry, 1.30 p. m., p. 606.

Ames has a movable column organized of between 4,000 and 5,000 men ready to move in any direction. One brigade of cavalry is held in reserve, ready to be thrown anywhere to fight dismounted. One brigade is doing the ordinary picket duty, and one brigade is covering our right and rear near the junction of the Charles City and Long Bridge roads. I have had a strong rifle-pit dug, running from the redoubt on the New Market road next east of the Four-Mile Church redoubt to the Deep Bottom line, so that if the cavalry give us a reasonable warning of an attack in that direction our troops can be put in an almost impregnable position. General Weitzel thinks that the enemy are relieving some of the local defense battalions by regular troops. Deserters for some days past have told that such was the intention. He thinks that not more than three regiments have come across the river, and it has been reported to me since I commenced writing this that small bodies of troops have been seen moving back to Richmond. All commanders are on the alert, and I do not think that we are in danger of a surprise.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

NOVEMBER 11, 1864.

General WILLIAM BIRNEY,
Tenth Army Corps:

I have just received the following dispatch. Be on the alert:

HATCHER'S, *November 11, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY:

The Howlett house battery opened on Batteries Sawyer and Parsons this a. m. with two guns on the former and one on the latter. The firing on both sides has been excellent. I have directed the firing of our batteries to cease, as the enemy are doing no damage.

C. K. GRAHAM.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 3D DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

Notice has been received of the enemy massing troops in front of left of Tenth Corps lines. Regimental commanders will hold their commands in readiness to form line at a moment's notice.

By command of Col. James Shaw, jr.:

J. E. LOCKWOOD,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 8. } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 3D DIV., 10TH A. C.,
In the Field, Va., November 11, 1864.

1. First Lieut. Henry G. Marshall, Twenty-ninth Connecticut Colored Volunteers, is announced as acting assistant adjutant-general, and Second Lieut. William M. Burrows, One hundred and twenty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops, as acting aide-de-camp. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Col. U. Doubleday:

H. G. MARSHALL,
First Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

Major-General TERRY:

A column of troops moved in front of my lines toward my right this morning. It is reported by one of my brigade commanders to have been about 5,000 strong. A part of the column is now massed in a field about three miles from my line.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
November 11, 1864. (Received 11.50 a. m.)

Major-General WEITZEL:

You say that a part of the column is now massed about three miles from your line. Do you mean that it is in your front and three miles from you, or that it is three miles to your right? How large a part of the column is there?

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864.

Major-General TERRY:

I have heard nothing further about that column of rebels. I think it will turn out like the three black crows story.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 11, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General TERRY:

I have just returned from a personal observation and investigation of that report. I find that at 9.30 a. m. a column of the enemy's troops, which consisted of three regiments, was seen moving toward the lower pontoon bridge. They now are lying massed in the field near Kingsland Creek, on the other side of the river, as if waiting their time to cross. No troops were seen to precede them. None have followed up to this moment. I have staff officers out and every one on the lookout, and will keep you posted as much as possible.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 11, 1864.

General WEITZEL:

The following dispatch has just been received from Lieutenant-General Grant:

If possible to prevent to-day's papers from getting into the hands of the enemy, prevent it. They all contain news from the West most decidedly contraband.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

Please give orders to your provost-marshal to proceed at once to Varina bridge and to seize all Northern papers brought to that point or Aiken's Landing, and not permit a single paper to escape him, taking also such other precautions as you deem necessary to carry out the above order. I have sent the same order to Deep Bottom.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 11, 1864.

Capt. W. H. ABEL,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that a column of troops have been moving toward our right this morning. About 5,000 were seen. Part of them are now massed in a field about three miles distant and immediately in front of these headquarters.

Very respectfully,

W. M. McCLURE,
Colonel, Commanding.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 11, 1864.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

The Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers reported at 7 a. m., the colonel stating that he had come as soon as his regiment was relieved from picket duty. No demonstration has been made by the enemy on my front, and everything appears as usual. The detail from the hospital was sent to the various regiments, and, of course, cannot work to-day in consequence of the late arrival of the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 12, 1864—11.15 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The quiet of the lines was undisturbed yesterday and last night. No further movements of the enemy reported since the dispatches sent yesterday. After comparing all the signal officers' reports they amount to seeing the movement of about 5,000 or 6,000 men, with some artillery, wagons, and ambulances, on the Boydton plank road going westward. Deserters yesterday morning, who came in the night previous, say it was rumored their lines were to be extended to the right. A deserter, who came in this morning, belonging to Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division, had been on picket two days; knew nothing of any movement of his brigade or division. Taking all the information I possess, which is simply that some of Mahone's division about the Jerusalem plank road has been withdrawn from the lines, Johnson extending to supply

their places, and that yesterday about a division moved to their right, I am led to believe that the enemy have extended their lines toward the South Side Railroad, probably on some rumor of an intended movement on our part. This would account for the movements reported by Terry, as they would naturally expect operations on both flanks and move accordingly. I have had no information of any part of Hill's corps going north of the Appomattox, except when deserters reported the withdrawal of some of Mahone's brigades, as previously stated. They said a rumor was prevalent that the division was going north of the James. Subsequent deserters, however, have not confirmed this, and troops, instead of being seen going into Petersburg, have been reported coming out. General Gregg reports one of his scouting parties yesterday encountered a scouting party of the enemy—guerrillas—and he had two men wounded. He reports numerous guerrillas outside his picket-line. He has been directed to take measures to capture or drive them away.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
City Point, November 12, 1864.

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

GENERAL: I. M. Hatch, one of the men employed in this department, who was sent into the enemy's lines on the 18th of September last, in the guise of a deserter from our army, for the purpose of ascertaining what disposition was made of such persons, returned to these headquarters yesterday, and makes the following statement in regard to his journey: After entering the enemy's lines he was taken to Petersburg, thence to Richmond, where he was placed in Castle Thunder. He was not subjected to a very rigid examination, but was merely asked in what command he belonged, a few questions regarding the general location of our troops, &c. He was kept in Castle Thunder three weeks, waiting for a sufficient number of deserters to be collected to make it an object to send them away. On the day of his arrival in Richmond 105 deserters from our army were sent off. Nine came in on the day of his arrival, seven of whom were sailors from the Commodore Morris. He also learned that 500 deserters had been run through the blockade and shipped to some foreign port, nearly all of them being foreigners by birth. While there, he also saw a number of our negro soldiers confined in Castle Thunder, who were compelled to do all sorts of menial duty about the streets of Richmond, work on the fortifications, &c. At the expiration of three weeks a party of 137 had been collected, and on the 10th of October they were sent to Lynchburg and thence to Abingdon, Southwest Virginia. From there they were marched, under guard, to the Cumberland Mountains, on the border of Kentucky, where they were liberated and divided into small parties, each one taking its own course. At Pound Gap, in the Cumberland Mountains, the party was joined by twenty other deserters from General Sherman's army, and at this point thirty of them joined the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Prentice, of the Confederate Army, who had a body of partisan rangers in that vicinity. The principal incentive these men seemed to have in joining Colonel Prentice's command was for the purpose of getting

mounted, stealing their horses, and deserting again from him. From Pound Gap, Hatch's party marched to Louisa, on the Big Sandy River (without guard), where they came within our picket-line. About twenty of them were there detected as being deserters from our army, while endeavoring to pass themselves off as rebel deserters. From this point the party took transports and went down the Big Sandy and Ohio Rivers to Cincinnati, thence by rail to Lexington, where Mr. Hatch reported to General Burbridge, and was forwarded by him to this place. Hatch's party was the third sent by this route. After being liberated by the rebel guard a great majority of them made their way through into the Northern States; but some, with a view of getting transportation North, represented themselves to be rebel deserters. Most of those resorting to this deception are detected; a large majority of the other class make their escape.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A man calling himself W. B. Beane was forwarded last evening from the Fifth Army Corps as a deserter from the enemy. He states that he belongs to the Sixth Virginia Infantry, Mahone's brigade (old), of Mahone's division; that he came over for the purpose of exchanging newspapers and brought yesterday's Petersburg and Richmond papers, which were retained by a private soldier in the regiment he came into. He states that he had no intention of remaining when he started, but getting a few points thought he would stay. His friends reside in Norfolk and he desires to be sent there. He states that he came out on picket last Wednesday evening and has not heard from his brigade since. Thinks he would have known it if it had moved. Could not see it from the picket-line, as there is a skirt of woods obstructing the view. Has no knowledge of any movement taking place. His brigade (Mahone's old) was lying in the same position as last reported, between the Squirrel Level road and Weldon railroad. Informant's manner of coming into our lines and his sang-froid give rise to suspicions that he was purposely sent in, to return again via Norfolk, such cases having occurred.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserter from Thirteenth South Carolina, McGowan's brigade, of Wilcox's division, came into the line of Ninth Army Corps, 12 m., to-day. No changes in Wilcox's division; McGowan to the left of

(our left) and opposite Fort MacRae; Lane to the (enemy's) left of McGowan, in same position as last reported. Informant states that yesterday one of his regiment was inquiring about the movement of some troops to their left, and was told that Mahone's division was moving back from the trenches into quarters. This is all informant knows of any movements. Conscripts arriving in small numbers daily.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 12, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Stations report all quiet. No change. Church road station reports that at 11 a. m. four regiments of infantry were drilling on plain at Boisseau's house; colors of each regiment could be easily distinguished.

Respectfully,

CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 306. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 12, 1864.

* * * * * * *

8. The attention of corps commanders is called to the necessity of preserving in good order the lines of intrenchments, front and rear, with the abatis, slashings, and other defenses. For this purpose corps commanders will occupy the works in the rear line of intrenchments with such batteries of artillery as are not required in the front and with such small infantry commands as are sufficient to carry out the above instructions. The Fifth Corps will take charge of the rear line from Fort Dushane to Fort McMahon, both inclusive; the Second Corps from Fort Stevenson to Fort Bross, both inclusive. The chief engineer officer will inspect the lines, both front and rear, from time to time and report to these headquarters any failure in the same in good order or any destruction of the defenses. Where the slashings have been cut up and removed, the command in the vicinity responsible for the same will be required to construct strong and heavy abatis and other works to supply the place of the slashings destroyed.

* * * * * * *

11. Battery G, Fifth U. S. Artillery, having reported to major-general commanding, pursuant to Special Orders, No. 352, of October 18, 1864, from the War Department, is assigned to the Fifth Army Corps, and will be temporarily united with Battery D, of the same regiment, constitute a single battery (D and G).

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the lines during the last twenty-four hours. Enemy had working party on different parts of the line yesterday. New work thrown up in front of Fort Morton, about 600 yards distant.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 12, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during the last twenty-four hours. One rebel deserter, Sixth Virginia, received and forwarded.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
[*November 12, 1864*]—*12.30 p. m.*

Major-General WARREN:

I am coming with Colonel Coles, British army, to ride over the lines, and will be glad to have your company. Will meet you at your respective headquarters.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Same to General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A deserter from the Thirteenth South Carolina Regiment has just come in. Came on the picket-line last evening. Heard no news from Hood or Early. Says that Mahone's division went into camp yesterday; means winter quarters. Says that when they finish the intrenchments they will go into winter quarters. From this man's account their line of intrenchments have rather a formidable profile.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 12, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours. Movements of bodies of the enemy were observed from signal station yesterday.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA.,
November 13, 1864—8.30 a. m. (Received 3.10 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

As soon as troops begin to arrive here rapidly so as to insure against offensive operations on the part of the enemy, I want to run up home for a day or two. I can go and return before troops enough will have arrived for me to take the offensive. I would not if I could just now do anything to force the enemy out of Richmond or Petersburg. It would liberate too much of a force to oppose Sherman with.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
November 13, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatches of the 12th* and 13th have just reached me. I will send a telegram to Dix. Every exertion is being made to get the troops forward rapidly. McClellan has resigned, his resignation accepted, and Sheridan appointed in his place on account of his great achievement of the 19th of October.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 13, 1864—12.30 p. m. (Sent 1 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The lines were yesterday and last night all quiet, except some artillery firing on the right. Deserters yesterday reported no movement of the enemy, but said it was understood Mahone's division had been withdrawn from the trenches and was going into winter quarters. Brigadier-General Gregg reports a scouting party of the cavalry overtook and killed five guerrillas in the neighborhood of Disputanta Station, on the Norfolk railroad, yesterday.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *November 13, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Admiral Porter and the Assistant Secretary of the Navy are here and will start back in a few minutes. I go with them to Fortress Monroe and will be absent until to-morrow night, leaving you in command in the interval. Please inform Captain Emory that his brother is in Hampton Roads, a prisoner aboard the Florida. If he wishes to do so, permit him to visit his brother.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Vol. XXXIX, Part III, p. 750.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters have been forwarded from the Fifth Army Corps. One from the Eighth Florida, Finegan's brigade, states that he left his brigade about dark last evening in their new camp a quarter of a mile to the left of the Boydton plank road, and one mile and a half beyond Battery No. 45. That Mahone's division moved to this place day before yesterday and are erecting winter quarters there. That day before yesterday morning he was left to guard some regimental baggage near the Wilcox house while the brigade was moving to the new camp. That a brigade from the right moved into the works vacated by Mahone's division. Was informed that it was Scales' brigade. That Johnson's division has extended to the right and occupies a part of the former line of Mahone's division. Scales' brigade and Johnson's division join each other directly opposite the Wilcox house. A deserter from the Thirty-third North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division, was forwarded this a. m. He is unable to give any account of the movements or position of any but his own brigade, which he states remains in the same position it has occupied for the last two weeks. Thinks McGowan's brigade has moved to the enemy's left. Cannot locate Scales. Is very stupid.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

P.-S.—Information from Captain McEntee this p. m. reporting: "Scales' brigade reported gone to North Carolina."

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
City Point, November 13, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Scouts returned this morning, bringing Richmond papers of the 12th instant, and the following information sent by our agents in that city: Scales' brigade, of Wilcox's division, is reported to have gone to North Carolina. Kirkland's brigade, of Heth's division, has been attached to Hoke's division. No other change in regard to troops is reported. There are seven torpedoes placed in front of Fort Gilmer. They are under one plank, and a weight of seven pounds on any part of the plank will explode them. They are marked by little flags to prevent their own men from stepping on them; in case of an attack or necessity of falling back the flags are removed. Our agent gets this from the parties who have been at work placing the torpedoes. There are not more than three weeks' supplies in Richmond, and there seems to be little prospect of increasing the amount. The Danville road is bringing up very little at present except forage. Something occurs to detain the trains almost every day. The running stock is getting in such a bad condition that it is continually breaking down. One cause of this is a lack of mechanics to keep their machinery in order. According to existing orders, but one man to every mile of road is

allowed in the repair shops connected with this road. Everything is very quiet in Richmond, the principal topic of conversation being the late Northern elections. Informant continues to impress upon us the great importance of the capture of Wilmington, as many supplies for the enemy come in through that port. The enemy are putting up another battery on the Nine-Mile road, and continue to extend their works to the left of their line. Scouts who go into Richmond state that the way is still open for troops to be marched around that way; but that the enemy, seeing the weakness of the position, are using every effort to guard against a surprise in that direction and to strengthen the position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 13, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Stations report all quiet. Sergeant Jordan reports 150 infantry moved into Petersburg from toward Richmond.

THICKSTUN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

No changes of any kind during the last twenty-four hours.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along my lines during the past twenty-four hours. No prisoners received.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 13, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

All quiet along our lines during the past twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
November 13, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that yesterday Capt. H. S. Thomas, First Pennsylvania Cavalry, made a scout several miles beyond Disputanta. He found no force of the enemy, but reports having killed five of the enemy's scouts or guerrillas.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. MCM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 13, 1864.*

Major-General TERRY:

I am going to Fort Monroe. Will be absent until to-morrow evening. Should anything occur you will receive orders from General Meade.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 14, 1864.

SIR: The commanding general directs that whenever opportunities for doing so present themselves you cause the accompanying copies of Special Orders, No. 126, of the 12th instant, from headquarters Armies of the United States* to be sent into the enemy's lines.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To corps commanders and commander Second Cavalry Division.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 14, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserter from the Sixteenth Mississippi, Harris' brigade of Mahone's division, came into the lines of the Fifth Army Corps last evening. States that he left his brigade about two miles below Battery 45, near the Boydton plank road. All of Mahone's division moved to this vicinity several days ago, and are erecting winter quarters. Part of Harris' brigade went out on picket night before last and relieved some of Mahone's brigade; are picketing on Mahone's old line. Informant cannot locate any of Wilcox's division. Deserter from Thirteenth South Carolina, McGowan's brigade, Wilcox's division, came into the lines of the Ninth Army Corps last evening. Brigade has not changed its position since the last fight; is lying to the right of Lane's brigade.

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* Same as Special Orders, No. 82, August 28, 1861. See Part II, p. 555.

Informant thinks Scales' brigade is lying to the right of McGowan's. Has only been in the army but a week and has little information. The accompanying report* from officer at City Point that Scales' brigade has gone to North Carolina is not corroborated by our information here. Deserter yesterday reports having seen Scales' brigade the day before. The report that Kirkland's brigade has been attached to Hoke's division is perhaps erroneous, and may have arisen from the fact that General Kirkland has taken command of Martin's old brigade, of Hoke's division; but General MacRae is commanding the old Pettigrew brigade, still attached to Heth's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The several signal stations have no changes or movements to report, excepting about 4.40 p. m. a small body of troops was apparently moving toward the left, as was indicated by the glistening of bayonets over the work to the west of what we term the large fort near the Weldon railroad. They were four or five minutes passing.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 397. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, November 14, 1864.

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7. Surg. John J. Milhau, U. S. Army, is hereby relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac, and will report in person without delay to the commanding general Department of the East for assignment to duty in New York City.

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23. At his own request, Brig. Gen. John R. Brooke, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby relieved from duty as a member of the general court martial convened by Special Orders, No. 41, January 27, 1864, from this office, and will proceed without delay to join his proper command in the Army of the Potomac.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 14, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

No changes in the lines since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

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* See McEntee to Humphreys, November 13, p. 613.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 14, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Egan has been seriously, though it is believed not dangerously, wounded. I have not heard particulars.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
ASSISTANT INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
November 14, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that in obedience to the order of the major-general commanding I have inspected the rear line of works occupied by this corps from Fort Bross to Fort Stevenson, inclusive, and that the following are defects needing remedy:

The breast-works are dilapidated and their revetment has been displaced or carried away in the following localities: To the right of Battery No. 40; to the right and left of Fort Patrick Kelly; to the left of Battery No. 38; to the right of Battery No. 37; to the right of Battery No. 36. A battery in continuation of No. 36, to its left, occupied by Light Company I, First U. S. Artillery, of the Second Cavalry Division, needs repairs on its parapet, and I observed that the old works in front were not leveled completely, thereby rendering the range of the guns incomplete. The slashing in front of Fort Patrick Kelly (in the vicinity of the camp of the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry, of the Second Cavalry Division), and in front of Fort Stevenson, has been partly burned or carried away.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. L. LIVERMORE,
Captain and Acting Assistant Inspector-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I think it just as well to send you this report for your information, as a portion of your command are stationed at some of the points referred to.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 290. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va.,
November 14, 1864.

1. Maj. John Willian, Eighth New Jersey Volunteers, inspector Third Division, will, in addition to his other duties, assume those of assistant

inspector-general at these headquarters during the temporary absence of Lieut. Col. C. H. Morgan, assistant inspector-general, Second Army Corps.

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By order of Major-General Hancock:

[SEPT. CARNCROSS,]
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during the last twenty-four hours. Three deserters received—Eighth Florida, Thirty-third North Carolina, Sixteenth Mississippi.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
November 14, 1864.

I. A recent inspection of the division shows a great deficiency in the arms and equipments of the men present for duty. Regimental commanders will make personal inspection of the companies of their regiments, and ascertain accurately the deficiencies in carbines, pistols, and sabers, slings and waist-belts, and, these ascertained, will make requisitions at once to supply the deficiencies. If, after a reasonable time, the stores required for are not furnished, it is desired that official information to that effect be sent to these headquarters. No commander must be content with having made a single effort to put his command in a condition of efficiency, but must continue his efforts until he is successful.

II. The attention of all commanders is called to irregularities which exist in permitting men to leave their camps and wander about the country in search of boards and other building materials. Men are thus permitted to straggle to and sometimes beyond the picket-line. This is a gross irregularity and will at once be stopped. The forests near the camps will furnish all the material required for the comfort of the men and will only be used. The practice of destroying buildings in the vicinity of the camps will be discontinued.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *November 14, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the rebels have not had an opportunity to use their mortars much. The Parrott piece works splendidly. Shall not fire it so frequently hereafter, but save the vent for more important practice. Quarters nearly done for the men.

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. —. } *In the Field, Va., November 14, 1864.*

Bvt. Brig. Gen. N. M. Curtis, having reported to these headquarters for duty, is hereby assigned to the command of the First Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, relieving Lieut. Col. A. M. Barney, One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers, who will report to his regiment for duty.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

T. ELLERY LORD,
Capt., 3d N. Y. Vols., and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 15, 1864—2 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

Has the order been promulgated yet for the organization of the First Army Corps, about which you telegraphed me some two weeks ago? If it is to be issued I think it would be advisable to issue it at once.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 15, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I would recommend the appointment of Brevet Major-General Weitzel to full major-general of volunteers. I want to have him assigned to the command of the Tenth Corps. This assignment, however, I do not wish made at present. It is my intention to transfer all the white troops from the Tenth, and all colored troops from other corps to it, and then assign Weitzel to the command.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 15, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: I consider it my duty to call your attention to the case of Col. Henry A. Morrow, Twenty-fourth Michigan Volunteers. This officer has served with distinction in command of his regiment since August, 1862. He was recommended strongly for promotion by Major-Generals Hooker and J. F. Reynolds for services at Fredericksburg, Chew [Fitzhugh's] Crossing, Port Royal, and Chancellorsville. Subsequently I recommended him for promotion for his services at Gettysburg, where he was wounded. On this campaign Colonel Morrow was wounded at the Wilderness, and has since been absent from the army in consequence of his wounds. Colonel Morrow's services were in Wadsworth's division, of the old First Corps. Owing to the death of General Wadsworth, the fact that the First Corps had been incorporated with the Fifth just prior to the battle in which Colonel Morrow was wounded, and the absence of this officer from the army, it has occurred that neither General Warren nor myself remembered his name when making out the list of brevets which you have been pleased to confer. As this

was an accidental omission, explained above, I feel justice to Colonel Morrow, recently returned, requires I should use every exertion to have this error repaired. I therefore have most earnestly to request you will co-operate with me in doing justice to Colonel Morrow by conferring on him the brevet of brigadier-general, to date from August 1, 1864, and for the services heretofore mentioned in this letter.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 15, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

The movements now being made by the army under General Sherman may cause General Lee to detach largely from the force defending Richmond to meet him. Should this occur it will become our duty to follow. In such case the Army of the James will be promptly withdrawn from north of James River and put in the trenches about Petersburg, thus liberating all of your infantry and cavalry and a sufficient amount of artillery. To prepare for such emergency, therefore, I would direct that you hold yourself in readiness to start in the shortest time with twelve days' rations, six being carried on the person, and forty rounds of ammunition in wagons. Select from your command the best batteries to accompany you, not exceeding one gun to 1,000 men. It is not intended that these preparations shall be made to start at a moment's notice, but that the articles shall be where they can be reached and loaded, and all preparation made for starting by the time your troops can be relieved by the troops of General Butler after such movement on the part of the enemy is discovered. A copy of this will be forwarded General Butler, with instructions to carry out his part promptly, moving night as well as day, if the contingency should arise.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *November 15, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Please have the ambulances and wagons left behind by the Sixth Corps, except those with the artillery, turned in to depot, and the men now with them sent to the Sixth Corps. The artillery will continue a portion of your command as heretofore and subject to such use as you wish to put it to.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 15, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Five deserters have been received to-day from the Fifth, Eighth, and Tenth Florida Regiments, of Finegan's brigade, Mahone's

division. They deserted the picket-line and came into the lines of the Fifth Army Corps. About 100 of Finegan's men are out on picket, and are from all the regiments of the brigade. They came out from the new camp and are to be relieved to-night. They picket on the east side of the Weldon railroad, on the old line of Mahone's division. It is about three miles from the place where they picket to the new camp. No information going to show that any troops are being sent away from the force this side of the Appomattox. Heth's, Wilcox's, and Johnson's divisions are along the line of trenches, and Mahone's in reserve, though doing picket duty on his old line. No brigades are known to be absent from these divisions excepting Thomas' and Johnson's old (Tennessee) brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

P. S.—A prisoner of war from the Sixteenth Mississippi, Harris' brigade, Mahone's division, was taken this p. m. in the act of exchanging newspapers. He came to our vedettes near Fort MacRae, at which place he states his regiment is doing picket duty. He gives but little information, except the fact that his division is in winter quarters and are picketing with regular two-day reliefs, somewhat to the right of Mahone's old line.

CHURCH ROAD STATION, *November 15, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant CLARKE,

Signal Officer, Headquarters Fifth Army Corps:

There is a column of infantry, followed by two wagons, moving in direction of Petersburg on Boydton plank road; six minutes in passing a point about northwest from this station.

VAN B. SLEEPER,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 15, 1864—3 p. m.

Major FISHER:

This afternoon three detachments, at intervals, in all about 1,500 men, have passed through the enemy's original main line toward the city.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following report from the Church road station, which was corroborated:

During the afternoon about 1,200 infantry came in several detachments from the enemy's extreme right and passed on the Boydton plank road toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. G. BARNARD,
Chief Engineer Armies Operating Against Richmond:

SIR: As to the pontoons about which you made inquiry lately, I would report that I find that I have of available pontoons here, including the nine now in use as a temporary wharf at the hospital above, seventy-five pontoons effective for transportation or use anywhere. As from the absence of my quartermaster I cannot ascertain exactly how he made the count of the pontoon-boats on hand, in his list of property handed me, I went up the James River yesterday to make an examination of the bridges there. Captain Lubey, the officer of my command in charge of bridges up there, reports in those two bridges 66 of the pontoons I brought up here. These, with the 75 above referred to, give 141, or 14 less than the 155 I originally brought up here, some 3 or 4 of which 14 I presume may have been destroyed by the collisions of the gun-boats with the bridges, and the balance, I presume, have been used in the bridges built by the officers of General Butler's command, as the pontoons I have sent from here have been at different times mixed up with them and transferred from one point to another without my knowledge at the time. In passing the upper bridge (nearest the Aiken house) yesterday I noticed it was in very bad condition, requiring a new covering at once, and I directed Captain Lubey, as he reported it not under his charge, to urge upon Captain Lyon the necessity of recovering this bridge as early as practicable. This distribution of the mass of the pontoon material into the charge of different persons, so that there is no complete record or responsibility for it with any one officer, and that the bridges are left often in the charge of those who have a limited knowledge or experience with them. As I believe the Engineer Brigade proper had had that experience to the greater degree, convincing me of the impor tance of a suggestion I made to General Grant early after our arrival here, and which I would now respectfully offer for your consideration, that all the pontoon material upon both rivers not directly in use in bridges should be retained at this depot, subject to the calls of either army under the authority of the lieutenant-general, to which I would add, what I now deem of importance also, that all the bridges also should be under the care and direction of the Engineer Brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 15, 1864—9.15 a. m. (Received 9.35 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

No change in the disposition of the troops and nothing of interest occurred since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 15, 1864. (Received 6.40 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Two deserters, Seventeenth South Carolina, just arrived. They say about five days since Mahone's division went across the river. They did not know where; they went toward Richmond. Nothing new. They say all quiet in their lines. They also say there has been a good deal of changing positions and troops in their lines lately. They do not know how much of Hill's corps went away, but say that part of Hill's corps joined Johnson's division on the right. They relieved Finegan's and another small brigade when they went away.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 291. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va., November 15, 1864.

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2. On the recommendation of the division commander, and in accordance with authority received from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the troops now composing the garrisons of Battery No. 4 and the Dunn house battery will be relieved by the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin Volunteers.

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By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 3D DIV., SECOND CORPS,
November 15, 1864.

Hereafter at least one or more reliable men will be placed on each picket post, and if any man attempts to desert, shoot him down at once. Do this as a solemn duty to your country and our cause, and you shall be rewarded by a furlough and a recommendation for promotion.

By command of Col. R. McAllister:

THOS. H. DUNHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 15, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along my front during the last twenty-four hours. No deserters received.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 15, 1864.*

Major-General BURNSIDE,
Baltimore, Md.:

You are authorized to visit headquarters.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 15, 1864.

Capt. JOHN D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, First Div., Ninth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: In compliance with instructions from headquarters First Division, Ninth Army Corps, of this date, I have the honor to make the following report of officers who distinguished themselves on this campaign:

First. First Michigan Sharpshooters: The commanding officer of the regiment declines to mention any names, but says that nearly all did well. From what I have learned and observed, I am of opinion that Capt. Levant C. Rhines and Adjt. Ed. J. Buckbee deserve especial mention. The former was killed in action June 17, and the latter is a prisoner of war.

Second. Second Michigan Infantry: Of this regiment I have to report the same—the commanding officer fails to specify names. Of those now in service I have no especial mention to make, though Lieutenant-Colonel March, in his brief career as an officer, has always been marked by great steadiness of conduct.

Third. Twentieth Michigan Infantry Volunteers: Of those now living and on duty with the regiment I am not aware that any have merited especial mention. All have behaved well. If I should mention any it would be Capt. C. A. Lounsberry, Company A, for services on the 9th of May. I regret that Maj. George C. Barnes has not survived to enjoy the honors which his gallantry on the 12th of May and 2d of June merited.

Fourth. Fiftieth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteer Infantry: Captain Brumm, commanding this regiment, fails to mention any names. Had Capt. Samuel K. Schwenck not been mustered out of service I should certainly have mentioned him for his conspicuous gallantry on the 9th and 12th of May.

Fifth. Sixtieth Ohio Volunteer Infantry: Lieutenant-Colonel Avery, commanding the regiment, reports the name of Lieut. J. F. Curren, adjutant of the regiment, for conspicuous gallantry on every field up to the 17th of June, when he lost his arm; also, Lieut. S. J. Evans, killed in action June 7, 1864.

Sixth. Forty-sixth New York Veteran Volunteer Infantry: Captain Becker, commanding the regiment, reports no names of those who have distinguished themselves.

Seventh. Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry (dismounted): From this regiment I have received no report, nor am I able to specify any names from my own knowledge or from inquiry. The Thirteenth Ohio have not reported, and I suppose their report will be made through headquarters of the brigade. If the report were intended to embrace all, whether now in service or not, the list would be increased.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BYRON M. CUTCHEON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., November 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER, *Commanding Army of the James:*

GENERAL: As I am about leaving City Point to be absent for five or six days, I have just sent instructions to General Meade, of which the inclosed is a copy.* These instructions contain all that is necessary for you if the contingency upon which they are based should arise. All that I would add is that in case it should be necessary for you to withdraw from north of the James you abandon all of your present lines except at Deep Bottom and Dutch Gap. Just occupy what you did prior to the movement which secured our present position. Preparatory to this, remove at once within the line to be held all heavy guns that cannot be drawn off readily. Open the rear of all inclosed works so that when we want to retake them they will not be directed against us. General Barnard, chief engineer in the field, by my direction informed the chief engineer Army of the James of the work to be done in this respect.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *November 15, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT, *Commanding Siege Artillery:*

COLONEL: Have the honor to report rather more firing by the enemy to-day than usual. They were laboring under the impression, I believe, that the end of the canal was about to be blown out. Our men were blasting rocks or hard-pan there last night. The engineers have been in the practice recently of taking a large detail every day from the two companies supporting this fort to work on the small battery just above, laid out by Colonel Serrell, leaving my work in an incomplete state. Complained to Major Michie, who had the matter adjusted and ordered the labor on Colonel Serrell's battery to be discontinued for the present. Have had the men leveling off the terre-plein to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. C. A. HECKMAN, *Commanding Second Division:*

GENERAL: It having been brought to the notice of the major-general commanding that two men of the Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers deserted to the enemy yesterday while on picket, the major-general commanding directs that you cause the officer who had charge of that part of the line through which these two men deserted to be put under arrest and charges preferred against him for neglect of duty, and immediate trial to be had.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. D. WHEELER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*See Grant to Meade, p. 620.

WASHINGTON CITY, *November 16, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The order for raising the new corps was suspended by the President, but will be issued in a day or two, as soon as I can effect arrangements with the Secretary of the Treasury.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 16, 1864—10 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

There is nothing to report from this army. If you have no objection, and will be at home this morning, I wish to visit you at City Point.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 16, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following deserters received to-day: From the Second Cavalry Division, one private, Third Virginia Infantry, Kemper's brigade, Pickett's division. Left his regiment near Dutch Gap, on south side of James River, last Sunday evening, with a leave of absence to visit his home in Dinwiddie County. Deserted and came to our cavalry lines yesterday. Has been in the regiment but a short time and has very little information. Pickett's division holds the line between Port Walthall and Dutch Gap. From the Fifth Army Corps the following deserters have been received: Three from the Sixty-first Virginia, Mahone's old brigade, Mahone's division; two from the Eighth Florida, Perry's old brigade, Mahone's division; one from the Twenty-third South Carolina, Evans' old brigade, Johnson's division. From them we learn that Johnson's division is now posted from the Appomattox to Battery No. 31, or Fort New Orleans, the second fort to the enemy's right of Fort Mahone, a point about two miles east of the Weldon railroad. Evans' brigade is on the right of the division. Wilcox's division is on the right of Johnson's, Scales' brigade forming the left of the division. The Petersburg militia are between Johnson's and Wilcox's divisions, on the left of Scales' brigade, between Battery No. 31 and the Weldon railroad. Scales' brigade occupies the place formerly held by Mahone's old and Wright's brigades. From the Second Army Corps have been received two privates from Seventeenth South Carolina, Evans' brigade, Johnson's division. Their statements corroborate the above. Contraband from Chambliss' old brigade of cavalry locates Chambliss', Butler's, and Dearing's brigades three miles south of Burgess' Mill, encamped on the new military road. Barringer's brigade is near Gladding's Mill, four miles southwest of Petersburg, on the Boydton plank road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

WALTHALL STATION, VA., *November 16, 1864.*

Captain THICKSTUN,
Chief Signal Officer, Second Army Corps:

SIR: The following messages have been intercepted during the day:

9.15 A. M.

Colonel B., &c.:

Continuation of last night's message: One hundred and fifty men went up from the woods to the same place where the party was working early this morning and yesterday, and commenced to throw dirt on the second line of works. At 2 p. m. they were relieved by as many more, who worked until dark. A good many men in the woods cutting logs, and wagons hauling them to the works. I suppose they are making a new fort, but there are no signs of embrasures or guns as yet. Eighty-one wagons went up the river and forty-three down during the day.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

11 A. M.

Major P.:

A train of eight flats, the tops crowded with soldiers, passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

1.20 P. M.

Colonel B., &c.:

Two companies of infantry drilling in open space.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

3 P. M.

Major P.:

I report during the day there have passed in rear Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, one train of seven box-cars and one train of four coaches and three flats loaded with soldiers; seven wagons and three ambulances. Toward City Point, in rear of same battery, one train of thirty-three box-cars, one of twelve coaches, nine wagons, and two ambulances. Brigade of infantry drilling in front of Battery 9.

B. C.,
At D.

4.10 P. M.

Colonel B., &c.:

From Dunn's: Two companies of infantry drilling in open space. One gun-boat above and one below Port Walthall.

From Steuart's front: All quiet in enemy's camps to-day. Men still at work on second line of works between Batteries R and D. No indications of a new battery as yet. There is also a small party at work on same battery near same place. No movements observed. Twenty wagons passed up and thirty down the river.

R.,
At C.

Camps unchanged. No movements observed. Sergeant Holman sick with chills and fever.

GEO. W. HOPPING,
Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 310. HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *November 16, 1864.*

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2. The Second New York Mounted Rifles, now dismounted and serving as infantry in the Ninth Army Corps, is transferred to the cavalry division for the purpose of being mounted, and will at once proceed to

the dismounted cavalry camp near City Point, from which place the regimental commander will report for further orders to Brigadier-General Gregg, commanding Second Cavalry Division.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
November 16, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 9.21 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 16, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Whilst at City Point a telegram was received from the Secretary of War saying the President had suspended the order for the reorganization of a veteran corps, but that in a few days action would be taken and the order issued. My visit was satisfactory.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 16, 1864—8.40 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I am glad that you have arranged your matters satisfactorily. I believed it would be so, knowing the merits of the case.

I am, sir, very respectfully, &c.,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 16, 1864—8.50 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE:

I know the Secretary of War has always been well disposed toward me. If the interests of the service are such that a delay here is necessary, in connection with the veteran corps or otherwise, well; but I have been constantly engaged during this war, when not on my back from wounds, and for the last three years I have entirely ignored my personal interests when the public service was concerned. I have not much faith that my services will be required in connection with the veteran corps, since the matter has assumed so much importance that the President has thought proper to suspend the order of the Secretary of War for its organization. I suppose that other persons have desired the position, or the matter would not have been brought to his attention.

I am not ambitious to command armies or corps, other than the Second Corps, unless the public service is thought to be in question, and am not disposed to put myself in the way of any dispositions the Government may desire to make, but, public interests not intervening, I desire to look after my private affairs. I therefore ask for a leave of absence for twenty days.

I am, general, yours, respectfully, &c.,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 16, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

I think you have misapprehended my telegram. The suspension of action in the veteran corps was due, I think, to the election and press of affairs incident thereto, and not to any proposed change of commanders. It was distinctly understood by me to-day that you were to be put on this duty, and the telegram was in reply to one inquiring why the order had not been sent. The construction upon the reply was, the order would come in a day or two. I would therefore suggest your awaiting action in this matter before taking a leave.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 16, 1864—9.40 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I leave the matter of my dispatch of this evening in your hands entirely for such delay as you may think proper.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 79. } HDQRS. 2D DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 16, 1864.

In restoring to the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin, and the One hundred and sixty-fourth New York their colors, which these regiments were deprived of the right to bear by General Orders, No. 63, August 30, 1864, from these headquarters, the major-general commanding the division rejoices in the feeling that, as in the first instance, a sense of duty required him to take them away, so now the same sense of duty compels him to return them, for these regiments have in a most glorious manner testified on the field of battle their right to bear colors and their ability to protect them. The gallantry with which they regained their colors is a sufficient guaranty that hereafter they will be safe in their hands. The major-general commanding has nothing to regret in his action in this case, since it has been the means of demonstrating in so marked a manner the real worth and gallantry of these regiments.

By command of Major-General Gibbon:

A. H. EMBLER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 16, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to forward the names of Capt. J. Henry Sleeper, Tenth Massachusetts Battery, and First Lieut. Walter S. Perrin, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, for brevet rank for gallant and meritorious conduct at the battle of Reams' Station. Captain Sleeper has commanded his battery with his present rank for twenty-five months, and has gained for himself and command an enviable reputation. Captain Clark, acting chief of artillery, in his official report of the battle of Reams' Station, says:

> Capt. J. Henry Sleeper, commanding Tenth Massachusetts Battery, was wounded; but though a painful wound he continued with the battery nearly a half hour until the firing had ceased.

First Lieutenant Perrin, commanding Batteries A and B, First Rhode Island Light Artillery, at the battle of Reams' Station, acted with great judgment and coolness. During the final attack he was shot through the leg and taken prisoner; his leg was amputated. Lieutenant Perrin has participated in every battle of the corps since his connection with it from 1862 up to the time of his capture. At the battles of Fredericksburg and Gettysburg he showed conspicuous gallantry, and at the latter, after his commanding officer fell, commanded the battery through the action. In my opinion, no officer in the corps more richly deserves the honor of a brevet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 16, 1864. (Received 9.20 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along my lines during the past twenty-four hours. The following deserters and prisoners were received: Three men, Tenth Florida, deserters; one man, Fifth Florida, deserter; one man, Sixteenth Mississippi, captured; one man, Mr. Aiken, refugee.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 16, 1864. (Received 10.15 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

All quiet along our lines.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

[NOVEMBER] 16, 1864—9 a. m.

Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

We are all returning. May not their land transportation meet them at Deep Bottom?

J. R. HAWLEY,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 16, 1864.

General WEITZEL:

I have just received a telegram from General Hawley, dated Fortress Monroe. The troops are all returning. I hardly think that they will be ready to disembark before to-morrow morning. Hawley asks to have the wagons belonging to the troops go down to meet them.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

U. S. S. DON, POTOMAC FLOTILLA,
November 16, 1864.

General GRAHAM, U. S. Army,
Commanding Army Gun-boats:

MY DEAR GRAHAM: Last week two of your gun-boats visited the Rappahannock, and, in reply to the hail of the Commodore Read, stated that they had been ordered there by you to remove torpedoes from that river. Now, as I know you would no more think of giving your boats such instructions than I would of sending a detachment of men from this flotilla to land at City Point for the purpose of removing the obstructions between the Army of the Potomac and Richmond, I thought it best to write to you of the acts of your youngsters, lest by their indiscreet zeal they should give us both trouble.

[My orders to my officers are to co-operate heartily with all properly authorized military expeditions, but that no cruising in the waters blockaded by the vessels under my command can be permitted, except under instructions from me.]

Will you please give your commanding officers orders to exhibit their orders to the senior officer present when they visit the Rappahannock again, and oblige,

Yours, very truly,

FOXHALL A. PARKER.

P. S.—As to the torpedoes, I had them removed long ago, and my vessels now cruise on the Rappahannock to within a few miles of Port Royal. I wish you would pay us a visit in person to these waters. I would much like to see you and would insure you a bountiful supply of fine oysters.

F. A. P.

[Indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 25, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

GENERAL: I forward a copy of a very peculiar letter received from my friend Parker, commanding the Potomac Flotilla, a few days ago. He alludes to the army gun-boats Jesup and Mosswood, which were sent

to the waters of the Rappahannock Fork and Potomac Rivers during your absence to look out for blockade runners and mail-carriers. Parker has been misinformed, however, about the object of these boats, as Harris informs me that he did confer with Acting Master Street, commanding one of the blockade vessels, and had the written orders issued by me indorsed by that officer. Presuming that you will not subscribe to the doctrine promulgated by Parker in the sentence placed within brackets, I am, respectfully, general,

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

The officers commanding the gun-boats belonging to this department have instructions to give all proper information to the officers of the navy and to co-operate with them cordially whenever it can be done.

CITY POINT, *November 17, 1864—9 a. m.*
(Received 9.50 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I leave this morning for Burlington, N. J. Will have with me a cipher operator.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 17, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Please telegraph me in cipher anything important that may occur in my absence.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 17, 18

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Eight deserters from the enemy have been forwarded to-day: Three from the Sixth Virginia, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division; one from the Tenth Alabama, Forney's brigade, Mahone's division; one from the Seventh North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division; one from the Tenth Florida, Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division; one from the Seventeenth South Carolina, Evans' brigade, Johnson's division; one from the Third Virginia, Kemper's brigade, Pickett's division; all of whom came into our lines last evening and this a. m. From them we learn that details from Mahone's division are doing picket duty in front of Scales' brigade, which occupies the position recently held by Mahone's and Wright's brigades; that Scales' brigade is at work on the fortifications building traverses. Deserter from Lane's brigade states that Wilcox's division is all in the trenches, excepting Thomas' brigade, of which he knows nothing. Deserter from Tenth Alabama speaks of Whiting's division being on

the right of Heth. Can give no definite information concerning it; only heard it was there. No considerable number of conscripts being received in any of the brigades represented by these deserters. No regiments found to average 300 for duty.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
November 17, 1864.

Major FISHER:

At 11 a. m. two small parties with sixty-eight horses came from woods in vicinity of large fort and moved toward Petersburg. Enemy are working in small squads near lead-works and on front line and near large fort. All quiet.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 17, 1864.

The standard time throughout the army will be that kept at the telegraph office at these headquarters.

By command of Major-General Meade

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 17, 1864.

Corps commanders will make the necessary preparations to move at twelve hours' notice with the artillery supplies and trains herein indicated. In the event of moving, the intrenchments in front of Petersburg will be held by the Army of the James.

1. Corps commanders will at once designate the batteries to accompany their troops, not exceeding twenty-four guns to each corps, one-half rifled. Each battery will carry its full supply of ammunition, 250 rounds per gun. The chief of artillery will prepare a train of reserve ammunition of twenty rounds per gun to move with the main trains.

2. Four days' bread and small rations and one day's salt meat will be carried on the person; three days' beef on the hoof will be taken with the troops; eight days' bread and small rations will be carried in the supply trains, and eight days' beef on the hoof will accompany them. Eight days' forage will be carried in the trains.

3. Sixty rounds of small-arms ammunition will be carried on the person and forty rounds in the wagons.

4. The intrenching tools, one-half the ambulances, one medical and hospital wagon to each brigade, and the light headquarters wagons will accompany the troops, the remaining ambulances, medical and hospital wagons, headquarters and other baggage wagons, and the bridge trains and reserve artillery ammunition of twenty rounds per gun will move with the general trains.

5. The commander of the cavalry will make corresponding preparations to those just indicated for the infantry.

6. The supply and other trains now at City Point will be moved at once to the vicinity of the Jerusalem plank road, in rear of the center of the army, well out of view of the enemy, and parked in such manner as not to block main or cross roads. The supplies herein directed to be carried will be drawn and kept on hand, and every arrangement made preparatory to moving according to these instructions.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

As I presume the commanding general would wish a report as to the troops and the progress of the works under my command here, I would state that since my letter of the 5th instant, forwarded by the hands of Captain Chester, I have had these forces reduced by the ordering away of the Two hundred and fifth Pennsylvania Regiment, as by the command of General Grant on the 10th instant. That of the two battalions of infantry remaining, one, the Sixty-first Massachusetts, has been ordered to Fort Porter to do the picket duty on the lines in advance of that work and Bailey's Creek, and with orders that the few men that can be spared from such duty shall complete the works in that vicinity. The other infantry battalion, the Eighteenth New Hampshire, has been continuously occupied upon the corduroy road north of the Appomattox.

The engineer troops under my command, besides furnishing from 400 to 500 men for daily duty, by the orders of General Grant, in the commissary, quartermaster's, and medical departments, and on the roads here, have been occupied in preparing the parapet and inclosures for the cattle herds at the Bland place, just outside of the right of the lines of defense, which work is now nearly completed and I expect that it will be entirely so by to-morrow night. I would further state that if no additional orders come to me for other labor, on Monday next, besides the details now ordered for the departments as stated above and the depot guard here and the guards of some thirty engineers indispensable at each of the forts, there may be some 200 to 300 engineers not absolutely at work here that could be put upon the works at Prince George Court-House, and I cannot positively estimate for any more from the troops under my command. But I would earnestly recommend for these men that they should have some opportunity given them for drills with their arms, which has not been the case with any of all the new troops assigned to me. Not a single company, except my old depot guards here, have ever drilled with their arms by my authority, or as far as I can learn at any time previous to their arrival here. In view of this I would respectfully ask a suspension of the orders about the Prince George Court-House works, at least until some large additional body of troops can be assigned here for these works. I may add, in this connection, that I find the other commands at this post have the opportunity to drill, even to the colored troops, the details of whom as laborers asked for by the quartermaster's department the engineers have been ordered to replace. I would state further that I have requested

Major Michler to go with me in person over the lines that he had selected as I should desire before commencing them, for as far as I can judge of what is needed it would appear to me that a line, if the ground permits it, that would run more nearly direct from Fort Porter to his last large redoubt might answer the purpose and save over one-third the distance or labor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

The Dunn house battery is now garrisoned by eighty men of the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin, commanded by Capt. George Weeks, of that regiment; Battery No. 4 with 100 men of the Thirty-sixth Wisconsin, commanded by Capt. George A. Fisk, of that regiment; Battery 13 is now garrisoned by the Fifty-ninth New York, 118 men, commanded by Col. William A. Olmsted, of that regiment. No other changes have occurred since my last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along my front during the last twenty-four hours. Six deserters received, viz: Two from Eighth Florida Infantry, three from Sixty-first Virginia Infantry, one from Twenty-third South Carolina Infantry.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 17, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual transpired along our lines.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 232. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, Va., November 17, 1864.

1. The Second New York Mounted Rifles having been transferred to the Second Cavalry Division, all enlisted men on detached service in the corps will at once be returned to duty with their regiment. Cap-

tain McAllister, Second New York Mounted Rifles, is authorized to collect all such men and conduct them to dismounted cavalry camp, near City Point.

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By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., November 17, 1864—9 p. m.

DIVISION COMMANDERS TENTH ARMY CORPS:

Heavy firing being reported in front of the Eighteenth Corps, the general commanding the army directs that you have your command in readiness for any emergency. The commanding officer of the Third Division will move a sufficient number of his command to the front to man the intrenchments.

I. R. SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 163. } *In the Field, November 17, 1864.*

1. So much of paragraph 1, Special Orders, No 155, current series, from these headquarters, as provided for the temporary assignment of the detachment Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery to the Third Brigade, is hereby countermanded. The commanding officer will report with his command to Col. J. C. Abbott, commanding Second Brigade.

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By command of Col. A. C. Voris:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., November 17, 1864—10 p. m.

BRIGADE COMMANDERS, FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS:

In pursuance of instructions from corps headquarters the general commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness for any emergency, as heavy firing is reported in front of the Eighteenth Corps. Officers will be notified, but the men will not at present be turned out under arms.

By order of Brig. Gen. J. R. Hawley:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Subsequent information has been received that the firing is on the Bermuda front.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 17, 1864.

The commanding general directs that hereafter it is positively forbidden for any person to exchange papers with the enemy, except Lieutenant Connelly, staff of Brevet Brigadier General Jourdan, who is alone authorized to exchange papers with the enemy and to whom all applications for rebel papers will be made. All existing orders from these headquarters authorizing an exchange of papers are hereby revoked. Occasion is here taken to notify officers commanding pickets to be vigilant in seeing that no person goes beyond the picket-line except the above-named officer.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. Weitzel:

D. D. WHEELER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 17, 1864.

General GRAHAM:

What has taken place on your front? Have the rebels attacked you?

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 17, 1864.

General GRAHAM:

The general commanding desires to know the cause of the firing in your front.

I. R. SEALY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 17, 1864.

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

GENERAL: The picket-line of the enemy advanced and have driven in our picket-line at some points. I have ordered the line re-established, which is being done at once. The firing has entirely ceased at present. I fear some of our men have been captured.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRAHAM:

If you should be seriously attacked, do you think you have sufficient force to hold your position?

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 17, 1864.

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

Unless there should be a vigorous and persistent attack, I think we can hold this line. I will communicate with you frequently.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

BURLINGTON, N. J., *November 18, 1864—8.30 p. m.*
(Received 11 a. m. 19th.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I will be in Washington Tuesday morning. Will go to New York with my family and remain until Monday.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *November 18, 1864.*
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The following dispatch from Major-General Butler to General Rawlins is forwarded for your information:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 18, 1864—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

General Grant told me yesterday that an order should be issued transferring the colored troops of the Ninth Corps to me. Please, therefore, order over two regiments to report to General Graham at Point of Rocks, and I will order two regiments of the Provisional Brigade to report to General Parke as soon as the colored regiments arrive. I ask this movement in this form in view of the threatened attack on Bermuda line. Please order them to-night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

Respectfully,

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *November 18, 1864.*
(Received 3.55 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

General Grant has decided to issue an order transferring the colored troops of the Ninth Corps to General Butler's command. You will therefore please order two regiments of colored troops to report to General Graham at Point of Rocks at once. General Butler has been ordered to send two regiments of white troops to report to General Parke when these colored regiments report to General Graham.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT, *November 18, 1864.*

CHARLES A. DANA, Esq.,
Assistant Secretary of War:

SIR: Please find herewith my views on the subject of destroying Fort Caswell by exploding a vessel loaded with gunpowder at the nearest point she could approach that work, and in reply to your desire to be furnished with such information.

On the destruction of Fort Caswell and Fort Fisher, and their capture, by an explosion of gunpowder.

FORT CASWELL.

It is proposed and considered practicable to destroy Fort Caswell, or its garrison, by blowing up a large ship loaded with gunpowder. This ship is to be conducted to the nearest point to the fort accessible to a vessel of her draught of water, and there exploded by some fuse or match under control of the parties navigating the vessel to her destination. The expectation and reliance is upon destroying this fort or its garrison by the effects of the blast of an immense quantity of powder, not less than 560,000 pounds, some of which it is proposed to take from damaged supplies now on hand. Such I understand to be the project on which my opinion is desired by the War Department.

Is this scheme practicable and likely to be attended with favorable results? Does it promise such reasonable results as to justify the consumption of so large an amount of our military supplies?

On examining the plans and hydrography about this work and its approaches from the sea, it appears that no vessel drawing ten feet of water can approach nearer to the fort than 450 yards; to reach which point she must make a circuitous course, exposed to the batteries of the fort. If served with hot shot and shell there is reason to believe she must be set on fire before she can reach the destined position. She may be sunk in attempting to reach her destination, and is liable to self-destruction by the powder being exploded by direct shot or shells from the batteries, or by fire caused by hot shot and shell. Should these projectiles strike and penetrate a wooden vessel conflagration must follow. It is very doubtful whether men would go on board such a burning ship, so loaded with powder, to extinguish the flame; and if they did so, whether it could be subdued in parts of the ship through which a hot shot might pass and ignite the woodwork, tar, and oakum exposed to such projectiles. Under such circumstances no other vessel is likely to approach her, either to divert and draw her off the enemy's fire, or give assistance in extinguishing the flames. It is possible that naval skill and genius may overcome some of these difficulties, but it is not probable that all of them could or would be surmounted, exposed as the vessel would be to quite formidable batteries in the fort, commanded by an officer (General Whiting) who is known to possess a knowledge of the efficiency of hot and hollow shot.

Admitting the probability of this vessel being satisfactorily moored at the selected site, nearest to the fort, and that the fuse explodes the powder at the desired moment, we find that the horizontal action of the powder thus exploded, whatever it may be, acts first upon the inclined plane forming the glacis of the fort, composed of a solid mass of earth more than 450 yards in length, and rising gradually to the height of twenty-six feet above low water. The armament of the fort is in part behind and below this hill. Back of it about sixty feet is a ditch filled

with water, the side of which ditch is lined or faced with a masonry wall of six to ten feet thick, behind and against which rises another sand-hill (the rampart) to the height of thirty-four feet above low water, and behind and below which is additional armament of heavy guns. Behind and below this last sand-hill (rampart) is the bomb-proof barrack, the eaves of which are thirty-one feet above low water, and three feet below the crest of the rampart which entirely surrounds this barrack. The walls of this building, occupied as a barrack by the garrison, are four feet thick, no part of which can be seen from the water, or be struck by any projectile than that of curved fire. The blast of a large quantity of powder is relied upon to ascend this sand-hill, pass over the ditch, and then descend into the body of the fort, strike and demolish the four feet walls of the barrack, and bury the garrison in its ruins. If its power can be relied upon to descend into the body of the fort, where alone it can injure the garrison who may choose to seek its protection, it would previously have descended into the ditch, and there harmlessly expended its force. I can find no reason to believe that these solid masses, or sand-hills, and massive walls, distant more than 450 yards from the site of the powder explosion, are to be removed or destroyed, or in any way injuriously acted upon by the air or atmosphere as a projectile, propelled by the explosion of any quantity of powder. All our experience goes to show that the atmosphere can only be used as a motive power by condensing it within circumscribed limits, and then giving vent to it, as in the air-gun, or by rapidly heating it within similar limits, and by sudden expansion act upon a solid in immediate contact, as the Ericsson engine. To put the air in motion and hope to batter and destroy any solid or substantial structure by any motion we can impart to the surrounding atmosphere, is contrary to our belief. The hurricane or tornado, combining the spiral with continued or prolonged action, we know to be capable of destroying vertical opposing surfaces of light structure, but such a continuous, prolonged action cannot be given to the atmosphere by any power within the control of man.

The power of the atmosphere put in motion and continued, during a moderate breeze, is 0.08 of an ounce on a square foot; during a fresh gale it is 5 pounds 3 ounces; during a hurricane [it] is 31.3 pounds, and during the most violent tornado, which destroys forests and wooden buildings and unroofs others, it is 46.1 pounds per foot, moving with a velocity of 97.5 miles per hour. Such a power, and the greatest we know of from a blast of wind, has never been known to disturb or injure such structures as those we are now considering. It is hoped to raise a breeze or hurricane at a distance of 450 yards from the object to be destroyed, by suddenly and momentarily upheaving the atmosphere at a point, without any means of conducting its force to the desired objects, which force when it arrives at the distance of a quarter of a mile has to be vastly greater than wind or the atmosphere has ever been known to move. We have some facts connected with the expansive force of gunpowder bearing upon this point. When confined to the bottom of the bore of a gun, say a 42-pounder, its expansive power is about 36,420 pounds on the square inch; give it, however, an air space of fourteen inches, or that distance in which to expand its power, and its force is but 15,850 pounds on the square inch; and give it still more space, forty-two inches, in which to expand itself, and the force is but 6,470 pounds on the square inch, thus decreasing its expansive power from 36,420 pounds to 6,470, or 29,950 pounds, in the short distance of forty-two inches, and that in the confined space of the bore of a gun.

Again, when the air space is twenty times greater than the space occupied by the powder the force of the powder is but 1,066 pounds to the square inch; when ten times greater it is increased to 2,525 pounds per square inch, and when the powder is equal to half that of air space the force is increased to 32,200 pounds to the square inch. When the powder fills and occupies the whole space without air space about it, as in an iron sphere (shell) so filled, the force is increased to 113,000 pounds to the square inch. In the case under consideration, the powder occupies the space equal to the hold of a vessel, and that of the air is infinite. Unless, then, we can conduct this expansive force of the powder in the vessels, immense as it may be, by a tube, or other means, to the object to be destroyed, or by means of an immense projectile in contact with the powder, we can expect no result calculated to destroy the garrison, and much less any of the solid ramparts and massive walls distant a quarter of a mile from the center of the power proposed to be used, a power that decreases rapidly with the distance from the object to be overcome. In all cases to which reference will now be made, the projectile force of the powder acting upon solid matter in immediate contact with the powder, thus making these solids the projectiles, they (the solids) have been the cause of injury, and in no case has the air been the projectile put in motion by the explosion that destroyed or injured buildings remote therefrom.

The reflux of the atmosphere filling the vacuum suddenly created by exploding the powder has in every case been the cause of forcing open and outwards doors, &c.; but the motion of translation or propulsion from the explosion, through the medium of the elastic vapor of the atmosphere, is not perceptible to any injurious degree. I consider that the explosion of a vessel load of gunpowder at the nearest point it can approach Fort Caswell or Fort Fisher, can produce no useful result toward the reduction of those works, and that no such vessel as the one proposed to be so loaded can be navigated and placed at the nearest point to these forts, provided the fort is garrisoned and its guns are served with hollow projectiles and hot shot.

FORT FISHER.

Fort Fisher is another work proposed to be destroyed, with its garrison, in the same manner as Fort Caswell. This work is situated on a sand-hill above the light-house at the northern entrance into Cape Fear River. It is unlike Fort Caswell in being formed exclusively of earthen or sand ramparts and ditch, without masonry, retaining its shape from the slopes given to the parapets, scarp, and counterscarp, with the aid of gabions and other temporary expedients. Our knowledge of it is imperfect, but enough is known to enable us to form as correct a judgment of the effects of the proposed explosion in the open air in front of it, as though we possessed as much detail as in the preceding case of Fort Caswell.

The distance of Fort Fisher from the water is not known with certainty. The light-house situated in this fort, or immediately adjacent thereto, was at the date of our last survey (1856) 440 yards from the water line on a N. 65° E. course, and the nearest point to which a vessel drawing twelve feet water could float was 950 yards on the same course, very nearly double the distance of that at Fort Caswell, and hence exposed to much less liability to injury from the proposed explosion. All my remarks in relation to the destruction of Fort Cas-

well are hence applicable to Fort Fisher, modified by this increased distance, and diminishing the probability of injuring it or its garrison by the explosion.

I will now give several instances of the explosion of large quantities of gunpowder, and the recorded results of effect produced, in exemplification of the preceding views:

First. Explosion of the magazine at Fort Lyon of the defenses of Washington, on the 9th of June, 1863. The floor of this magazine was nine feet below the parade of the fort. The space for powder was sixty-four by seven by seven [feet] covered on top with logs of fifteen inches square by eighteen feet long, and above them eight feet of earth (in thickness). The amount of powder in the magazine was 17,500 pounds in barrels, besides which there was ammunition prepared for 900 cartridges for 22-pounders, 750 cartridges for 24-pounders, and 500 cartridges for 30-pounder Parrott guns, and about 200 rounds for field pieces. The earth over and on top of the magazine was scattered in every direction, principally upwards. It fell in considerable quantities at a distance of 400 to 500 yards. Other portions of earth were thrown to the right and left, and deposited immediately alongside the outline of the magazine. The logs on top of the powder room were thrown in every direction. Some pieces were thrown to a great distance; in one case 600 yards. The breadth of the cavity in the earth formed by the explosion was about forty-five on top. The explosion did not affect the other earth-work of the fort to any material extent, although it surrounded the magazine on three sides, and not more than eighty feet from the magazine, rising several feet above it. One gun on the rampart was thrown (rolled) into battery and tipped forward, with its muzzle resting on the parapet. The loaded shells in the magazine were thrown to various distances; in one case as far as 2,500 yards. The wooden buildings and tents used as officers' quarters, placed near the magazine, were entirely destroyed. At the time of the explosion most of the garrison were in the bomb-proof, which opens on the front opposite the magazine and about seventy-five feet from it. All the officers and men therein escaped uninjured. At a house 350 yards from the magazine the glass of the windows was blown violently in and the doors out. The walls were started out and toward the magazine—in one case more than an inch—while the whole house was settled unevenly on its foundation. Several persons were lifted up and thrown to some distance—in one instance about 150 yards—escaping with only slight bruises, while others sustained scarcely a mark on their bodies.

Second. Another example of the explosion of a depot of powder of recent date occurred at City Point, Va. Two barges loaded with ordnance stores exploded, killing and wounding the persons on board and in the immediate neighborhood, but did no substantial injury to the grounds or solid structures or persons on shore, excepting by pieces of timber thrown from the wreck of the barges. This example is of special interest, as the powder was in a vessel afloat, the explosive action of which yielded to the sinking or subsidence of the vessel.

Third. An explosion occurred in July, 1848, on board a schooner moored at the levee opposite New Orleans, loaded with 656 boxes of fixed ammunition, and other boxes of ordnance stores. It took place after 141 boxes of the ordnance stores had been unloaded and reshipped on board a steamer alongside; destroyed the schooner, killed one and wounded another man on board. No injury was done to several other vessels in the immediate neighborhood, or to the buildings on shore.

Fourth. In the vicinity of New York two instances of explosion are within my recollection. The one, a magazine near the navy-yard, Brooklyn, which exploded in the early part of this century, throwing pieces of the building over into the city of New York and about the city of Brooklyn, producing no injury, so far as I can now ascertain, to buildings by the explosion of the powder. The second case occurred about 1830. The steam frigate Fulton, the first vessel of this character ever built (finished and in service in 1814), was injured by the explosion of her magazine when moored on the flats at the navy-yard. The quantity of powder on board was small, and although enough to destroy much of the vessel, it did no injury to surrounding objects. The vessel had timber sides of several feet thick, floated on two hulls, with water wheels between them.

Fifth. At Du Pont's Powder Factory, near Wilmington, Del., there have been numerous explosions from time to time. The injury done beyond the immediate locality of the mill or depot has been from fragments of the building in which the powder was stored or being manufactured, and no material injury from concussion or blast of powder.

Sixth. The recent test of the 20-inch gun at Fort Hamilton, near New York, was another instance where the effect of blast of powder was observed with a charge of 125 pounds of powder. Men were stationed directly on the line of fire, distant about seventy-five feet from the muzzle and screened by the river-bank that rose about twenty feet above their heads and about twenty-eight feet below the level of the axis of the gun prolonged. They experienced no inconvenience from the blast.

Seventh. Referring to European experience, I may call your attention to the depot magazine of the French army at the siege of Sebastopol in the Mamelon Vert in 1855. It contained 15,400 pounds of powder. It occupied the center of the work, was sunk below the parade, and made bomb-proof above and around by earth and logs similar in most respects to that at Fort Lyon. It formed a crater extending to the limits of the terre-plein of this small work, but did no material injury to the rampart or even the parapets. Two batteries, distant fifty yards from the center of the magazine, were injured; 140 men were killed and wounded, some by the first effect of the explosion, others by the masses of earth, stone, and timber that were carried a considerable distance. Beams were thrown into the Russian lines.

Eighth. In 1840 the English and Turkish fleets bombarded St. Jean d'Acre, blowing up an extensive arsenal within the limits of the defenses. It was situated in the ditch, with ramparts on each side, about fifty feet from the building. The explosions formed an extensive crater extending under the two ramparts, making a breach in each of them, killing and wounding about 1,600 men, who, at the moment of the explosion, were on the rampart adjacent to the arsenal. The quantity of powder in this extensive building could not be ascertained, although it was known to fill the building, with some exposed in the court-yard in the open air. The mass of stone, earth, and timber appears to have caused the death of the troops.

Ninth. We have numerous instances of the blowing up of ships of the line, as the French admiral's ship off Aboukir, and of the Turkish admiral's ship at Navarino, where destruction of the ships was entire and complete, but no effect is known or supposed to have followed from the expansion of the gases acting upon the surrounding atmosphere.

Tenth. The square tower of Brescia, of seventy feet high and eighteen feet "out to out," was destroyed in 1769 by the explosion of gun-

powder stored within it as a magazine, containing at the time 160,000 pounds (French) of powder. Within a radius of 100 toises, 190 houses were destroyed; within a radius of 300 toises, 500 houses were greatly injured, 308 persons were killed, and 500 wounded. A stone weighing 150 pounds was thrown one Italian mile. The walls of this building were four feet nine inches (French) thick. It was two stories high, separated by a masonry arch, entirely above ground.

Eleventh. A magazine exploded during the siege of Almeida (Spain), containing 150,000 pounds (French) of powder. The Cathedral, distant 165 meters, was destroyed; 500 inhabitants were buried in the ruins of the adjacent buildings. The French trenches were filled with the ruins and large masses of stone, and pieces of the heaviest caliber were thrown in the country over the ramparts. Three-quarters of this small town, within a radius of 200 meters, was destroyed. The trenches were at the time from 600 to 800 meters distant.

Twelfth. In October, 1864, on the south bank of the Thames, between Erith and Woolwich, two powder magazines and two barges loaded with powder exploded, killing eight or nine persons and wounding others. The quantity of powder in the largest magazine (Hall's) of fifty feet square, in two floors, was 750 barrels, and in the smaller one (Lowood's) of twenty-eight by forty-eight, was 90 barrels, and in the two barges then at the wharves, 200 barrels, making the total quantity exploded about 104,000 pounds. The two magazines were 135 feet from each other, situated on the edge of the river immediately behind the dike. The two barges were moored alongside the wharves or jetties, one of which projected into the river 122 feet and the other 120 feet. Connected with these two magazines were three cottages occupied by workmen and their families; one of them, Raynor's, was seventy-one yards from Hall's magazine; another, occupied by York, was seventy yards, and the third, occupied by Silver, was fifty yards from the Lowood magazine. These two magazines and three houses, situated as above, were upon a tract of twenty acres of ground, the only buildings within a mile of the disaster. There were three distinct explosions. The first on board the barges, which tore asunder the large magazine, which latter caused the smaller one to explode. Of these magazines not a single stone remained upon another. The barges were split into fragments and hurled into the air. The embankment was destroyed, forming a crater of seventy-five feet in length and thirty feet in depth. Raynor's cottage was entirely destroyed; himself and son were killed; his wife and daughter were dug out of the ruins alive. Silver's cottage was in ruins; in it a child was killed. Silver himself was at the back door, and thrown down by the first explosion, but not hurt, while the house was destroyed by the second and third explosion. He was dug out of the ruins. No damage was done beyond the twenty acres on which the magazines and houses were built other than breaking some panes of glass and doors. The shock was felt more or less throughout London, distant at the nearest point about fifteen miles, and some statements give the distance as great as forty and fifty miles to which it was felt. A magazine a quarter of a mile from those blown up was uninjured. The store-keeper and four workmen were in this magazine at the time. The second explosion knocked them down, and a piece of iron fell through the roof. Another magazine lay at a distance of a quarter of a mile farther off, and a Government magazine one mile, to which no injury was done.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

RICHD. DELAFIELD,
General and Chief Engineer, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Sixteenth Virginia, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division, came into General Warren's lines from vedette post near the Davis house at daylight this a. m. Have no information additional or contrary to that reported yesterday. Scales' brigade is in the trenches to the right and in front of the lead-works, and does no picket duty. Mahone's men come out from camp three or four miles on picket in front of Scales, who is at work building traverses and strengthening the works by abatis. Two deserters from the Forty-sixth Virginia, Wise's brigade, Johnson's division, came into General Mott's lines this a. m. Wise's brigade is lying between the crater and the Jerusalem plank road, with Evans on its right and Gracie and Ransom on the left. Have no other information. From office at City Point we learn that Johnson's old (Tennessee) brigade is on the right of Fort Harrison; 350 men in Fort Gilmer, with the Tenth, Eighteenth, and Twenty-fifth Battalions of City Troops near by. Pickett's division is lying from the James to their right in the following order: Terry, Corse, Hunton, and Barton. Agent left Richmond yesterday. The day before all the transportation that could be spared from the other railroads was transferred to the Central and sent north. Wagon trains were also sent north. It was understood in Richmond that these preparations were made for the return of Early's forces. Conscripts are not coming in in large numbers. There are very few at Camp Lee. Corn has lately been brought into Richmond in large quantities. No other news.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK,

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 18, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters from Weisiger's and Wise's brigades came in at 5 this a. m. Nothing indicating an evacuation. They have been changing the character of their works of late, building dams, traverses, and putting up extra rows of abatis, with a view, it is said, of holding their line with a smaller force. Nothing yet indicating a movement.

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: At 12.30 p. m. about 500 enemy's infantry moved toward Richmond on road beyond Pocahontas, as seen from the Avery house. About 300 infantry and four wagons moved out of Fort Clifton, disap-

pearing in woods in rear of the same. I accompany this with a copy of reports taken from the enemy's stations yesterday. They are only valuable as showing what points of our lines are being watched.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 18, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The Church road station reports:

No changes visible. A working party of forty men engaged in strengthening works near Boisseau's. Few wagons could be seen moving on Boydton plank road.

Plank road station reports:

The enemy have been issuing rations at seven different points from lead-works to the left. Have also apparently been inspecting infantry in different camps near Weldon railroad. All quiet and no changes or movements observed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 43. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 18, 1864.

Paragraph 1, of General Orders, No. 4, of February 18, 1864, from these headquarters,* is so far modified as to direct that refugees seeking admission within the lines of this army be detained at the outposts for the decision of the major-general commanding upon their applications, which will be promptly forwarded for his consideration.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 18, 1864.

Col. C. F. WALCOTT,
Commanding Post at Old Court-House:

There is an attack on General Butler's front. You will have your men ready to man the works at a minute's notice, and have your ammunition distributed. You will communicate these orders to Captain Thomas, and will cause the guards in the forts to be doubled, and the whole guard to be kept awake. You will communicate any information you may receive of the approach of an enemy to the forts to the right, as well as to these headquarters. You will also caution your pickets to be more than usually vigilant.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Vol. XXXIII, p. 571.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 18, 1864.

COMDG. OFFICER EIGHTEENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS:

SIR: There is an attack on General Butler's front. You will hold your men in readiness to move out on the road up to the works between the Batteries Nos. 3 and 4 in case of the approach of an enemy. You will double your sentinels and will have your whole guard awake. You will have your ammunition distributed and everything in readiness to repel an attack.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 18, 1864.

Capt. E. R. MAYO,
Commanding Batteries:

There is an attack on General Butler's front. You will hold your batteries in readiness to man their guns at a moment's notice, doubling your sentinels and having the whole guard kept awake. You will also see that your ammunition is in readiness for instant use. You will communicate whatever information you may receive of the approach of an enemy to the works to the right and left, as well as to these headquarters.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes have occurred since last report. The First Delaware returned last night. The enemy opened on Fort McGilvery from their batteries across the Appomattox, and were replied to by our mortars on the right.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 18, 1864—2.15 p. m. (Sent 2.25 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

Major-General Butler informs me* that the enemy's pickets at Bermuda Hundred reported Petersburg evacuated last night, or was to be to-night. The former fact, I am aware, has proved unreliable, but I wish you would caution your officers to be on the *qui vive*, in case the enemy does retire, to give us the earliest information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See p. 652.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864. (Received 6.25 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

The following has been received from my corps officer of the day:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the enemy have been engaged during this forenoon in throwing up a small work on the bank of the river nearly opposite Battery No. 4. I think the working party numbers about forty men. I think the work is intended to mount one gun in.

Respectfully, &c.,

ST. CLAIR A. MULHOLLAND,
Commanding Brigade, Corps Officer of the Day.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

1. The troops will be held in readiness to move at prompt notice with the artillery supplies and trains herein indicated. In the event of moving, the troops in the intrenchments will be relieved by other troops.

2. The chief of artillery will designate the batteries to accompany the troops, not to exceed twenty-four guns, one-half of them to be rifled. Each battery will carry its full supply of ammunition, 250 rounds per gun.

3. Four days' bread and small rations and one day's salt meat will be carried on the person. Three days' beef on the hoof will be taken with the troops. Eight days' bread and small rations will be carried in the trains and eight days' beef on the hoof will accompany them. Eight days' forage will be carried in the trains.

4. Sixty rounds of small-arms ammunition will be carried on the person and forty rounds in the wagons.

5. The intrenching tools, one-half the ambulances, one medical and one hospital wagon to each brigade, and the light headquarters wagons will accompany the troops. The remaining ambulances, medical and hospital wagons, headquarters and other baggage wagons will remain with the general trains.

6. The supply and other trains now at City Point will be moved at once to the vicinity of the Jerusalem plank road, well out of view of the enemy, and parked in such manner as not to block the main or cross roads. The supplies herein directed to be carried will be drawn and kept on hand, and all arrangements made preparatory to moving according to these instructions.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that about 4 p. m. yesterday the enemy opened on Fort McGilvery from three batteries across the Appomattox and were replied to by our mortars on the right. No change

perceptible, nor has anything of importance occurred on the lines during the past twenty-four hours. Two hundred and forty-two rounds of ammunition expended.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: In addition to the names already forwarded for brevet rank I have the honor to recommend Capt. Christian Woerner, Third New Jersey Battery, for gallant and meritorious conduct. Captain Woerner greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Reams' Station for energy, bravery, and good judgment. His battery rendered great assistance in repelling the charges of the enemy and in holding the general position of the corps. I would also recommend Capt. T. Fred. Brown, First Rhode Island Artillery, for a brevet for gallant conduct at the battle of the Po, May 10, 1864 (to date from day of appointment). Captain Brown posted his battery on the bank of the river and rendered the greatest assistance in the crossing of Barlow's division. He entered the service June 6, 1861, and has participated in all of the important battles of the Army of the Potomac. I earnestly recommend him for the honorable promotion.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that my command remains in the same relative position as to the front line, but has moved a little to the rear and gone into camp. The First Brigade is behind the high crest, in rear of Fort Stedman, and lies across the Hare house road. The Fourth Brigade lies in rear of Fort Morton, on a line between the Avery and Shands houses. The Third Brigade is in rear of Fort Rice, and the Second near the Chieves house. This disposition was made yesterday, and there has been no change made during the night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to recommend, in addition to those heretofore forwarded, the names of the following officers who have distinguished themselves by gallantry and meritorious services during the

campaign, with a view to a recognition of their services by brevet: Col. Henry J. Madill, One hundred and forty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers; Col. George W. West, Seventeenth Maine Volunteers. Col. H. J. Madill was placed in command of the First Brigade of this division on the 16th of June (after Colonel Egan was wounded); had command and handled his brigade with great gallantry and judgment during the assaults on the works before Petersburg on the 18th; was relieved by the assignment of Brigadier-General De Trobriand to the brigade. At the first Deep Bottom I transferred his regiment to the Second Brigade for the purpose of placing him in command (Brigadier-General Pierce being absent). His conduct throughout has been unexceptionable. Col. G. W. West was severely wounded at the battle of the Wilderness while in command of his regiment; returned and assumed command about the 1st of October; has the reputation of being a brave and efficient officer. These brevets to date from October 27, 1864.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

P. S.—The recommendation of Colonel Madill is from personal knowledge; that of Colonel West is his general reputation.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along my front during the last twenty-four hours. Six rebel deserters received—three from Sixth Virginia; two from Tenth Florida; one from Seventeenth South Carolina. There were 144 recruits and convalescents received for the corps.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 18, 1864.

Major-General PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

The major-general commanding considers that the arrangements to guard against surprise are not sufficient to secure your command against it, especially where there is open ground in front and no slashing, and that additional precautions should be taken by having under arms through the night and in position along the breast-works some part of your force.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

[Indorsement.]

Brigadier-General CURTIN, *Commanding First Brigade:*

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you put a regiment to-night on the line between Fort Fisher and Fort Welch in compliance with above instructions from headquarters Army of the Potomac.

[JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 18, 1864—4.30 p. m.

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you order two regiments of colored troops to report forthwith to Brigadier-General Graham, at Point of Rocks. General Butler will send you two regiments of white troops to replace them on their reporting to General Graham. It has [been] decided to transfer the colored troops of the Ninth Corps to General Butler's command, and an order to that effect will soon be issued. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch in reference to colored regiments received. Is it desired that these two regiments start at once or to-morrow morning?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 18, 1864. (Sent 5 p. m.)

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

It is desired that the two regiments of colored troops start without delay, to report to General Graham.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General FERRERO,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: In pursuance of telegraphic instructions from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the major-general commanding directs that you send two regiments from your command to report without delay to General Graham.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. YOUNGMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Capt. E. A. FOBES,
Chief Commissary of Subsistence, Second Division:

CAPTAIN: The commanding general directs that you keep the entire command constantly supplied with four days' rations, these four days' rations to be issued and in possession of the men. You will also keep

constantly on hand in the wagons eight days' bread and small rations, and eight days' beef on the hoof. Your attention is particularly called to the practice of your brigade commissaries making issues to the regiments when the order is issued from these headquarters for a movement of the troops, thus causing a great waste of fresh beef and other supplies. You will at once see that the command is supplied as above directed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, November 18, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

All quiet to-day. Last night Graham's pickets were driven in on Bermuda front. Have re-enforced him by a veteran brigade. Troops all back from North.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 18, 1864—3.30 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatches received and information of rumors of enemy's contemplated movements transmitted to General Meade. General Meade has been ordered to send at once two regiments of colored troops to report to General Graham at Point of Rocks. Upon their so reporting you will please send the two regiments you propose to report to General Parke.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 18, 1864. (Received 1.15 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Is there any movement in Petersburg? Rebel picket reports to General Graham's pickets that Petersburg was to be evacuated last night or will be to-night. His pickets in front of Bermuda were driven in last night.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 18, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

No movements in Petersburg have been observed or reported up to this hour. Reports from my lines, signal officers, and deserters indicate no changes or movements.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
November 18, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Train, Broadway Landing:

COLONEL: General Benham directs me to say that he is informed that the Artillery Reserve trains of the Army of the Potomac are about to be ordered to the front, and he desires to know if the artillery company which formerly constituted the guard of the trains will accompany them. If such is the case, the siege guns in position within these lines will be left entirely without men to serve them. Can you inform him as to this matter, and whether other detachments will be provided if this company is taken away?

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. S. TRUMBULL,
Maj. First Conn. Arty., Chief of Artillery, Defenses of City Point.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Before Richmond, Va., November 18, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Tenth Corps:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding directs me to request that you will cause the troops ordered to Bermuda Hundred this morning to proceed by way of Varina bridge to the Bermuda lines, reporting to General Graham, who will be found at Hatcher's. They should move with all possible haste, and start at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General, Acting Aide-de-Camp.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. Butler having resumed command of Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Brevet Major-General Terry resumes command of the corps.

By command of Brevet Major-General Terry:

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieut., Second U. S. Sharpshooters, Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 164. } *Before Richmond, Va., November 18, 1864.*

1. The pickets of the Third Brigade, Col. G. B. Dandy commanding, will be relieved by the Second Brigade, Col. J. C. Abbott commanding, before dusk this p. m.

2. Until further orders Capt. L. L. Bridges, commissary of subsistence Third Brigade, is hereby directed to furnish such stores for soldiers and officers of the Second Brigade as may be from time to time required.

* * * * * * *

By order of Brig. Gen. A. Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., November 18, 1864—3.40 a. m.

Colonel VORIS,
First Brigade:

By direction of the general commanding the Army of the James you will please detail from your command 250 men, provided with two days' cooked rations, if practicable, otherwise as much hard bread as can be carried, to report at Deep Bottom before daylight this a. m. You will confer together, and have the men report at same point within the limits of the division so that the senior officer of both may take command before starting.

By order of Brigadier-General Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Colonel Dandy, commanding Third Brigade.)

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Colonel JAMES SHAW, Jr.,
Commanding First Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that hereafter in case of an alarm the One hundred and sixteenth U. S. Colored Troops shall, without further orders from these headquarters, garrison the redoubt in our front and occupy so much of the intrenchments to the right and left of the redoubt as will be necessary to connect the Eighth U. S. Colored Troops with the Forty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. BAILEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

General WEITZEL:

Is that firing on your front or over the river?

A. H. TERRY.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

General TERRY:

It is over the river.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL:

General Graham writes to me that in the attack on his picket-line he lost 100 men, including one colonel. The attack was made in the old spot, in the woods to the right and front of Battery No. 3. Graham's

troops are so green that he thinks that he cannot re-establish his picket-line with them. I have directed 500 men from the Tenth Corps to be sent to him, to march as soon as possible. Can you send 500 more? If so, please start them at once.

A. H. TERRY,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Brigadier-General Heckman, commanding Second Division, will send the men in accordance with above dispatch.

By command of Brevet Major-General Weitzel:

D. D. WHEELER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

General GRAHAM:

What was that affair last night? What is your loss? Have you the picket-line again?

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 18, 1864.

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

GENERAL: The attacking force entered on the right of the field in front of Battery Anderson, dividing the force, swept the picket-line right and left, and captured the posts on the open field in front of Battery Marshall—about forty men. The force that went toward the right of our line captured four or five posts, and upon the first shot from the enemy the picket-line fell back, many of the men dropping their muskets, and ran back to the main works without firing a shot. The line was re-established on the right of the open space in the old rifle-pits, which are held. The picket-line on the left of the open space fell back on Redoubt Dutton; that line has also been re-established up to the field in front of Battery Marshall. The line connects from there with the line in front of Redoubt McConihe, being about 200 yards in the rear of the old line. During the night the enemy leveled the rifle-pits in front of Battery Marshall. Early this morning we attempted to establish the line in front of Battery Marshall, but upon the first fire the line turned and ran without firing a shot. From observations, both last night and this morning, I am convinced that no dependence can be placed on these troops as pickets, and I have little faith in them behind breast-works. Colonel Kaufman, Two hundred and ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, and Captain Bedee, of Colonel Potter's staff, are missing, and are supposed to be captured. One officer and three or four men have been wounded.

I am, general, &c.,

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 18, 1864.

General BUTLER:

One of my captains had a conversation and exchanged papers with one of the rebel pickets on the left this morning. This picket states that this line was to have been attacked in force last night but the men would not come up, and that the attack was deferred until to-night. He likewise states the rumor in their camp was that Petersburg was evacuated last night or would be to-night. I give these rumors in order that you may ascertain whether there is any truth in the report respecting Petersburg. The troops ordered by you to my support have reported, and a portion of them will be placed on picket this evening.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

(Copy forwarded by Butler to Grant and repeated by Grant to Meade.)

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 18, 1864.

General GRAHAM:

What is the cause of the firing on your front, and what is going on?

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 18, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina:

The firing on my line is occasioned by an effort to reoccupy the old picket-line from which our men fell back last night. It is confined to the picket-line.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 18, 1864.

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

GENERAL: The rawness of the troops on our picket-line occasioned their falling back before a demonstration of the enemy, which was undoubtedly made for the purpose of piercing the line and capturing as many on it as possible. Notwithstanding exertions on our part to ascertain the loss it cannot yet be ascertained. It is more than probable that Colonel Kaufman, Two hundred and ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, field officer of the day, with 100 men, have been captured. I make this communication in order that troops who have been under fire previously may be ordered here to reoccupy the line from which we have been obliged to retire, having no faith at all in the troops that are under my command at present except behind breast-works. Colonel Potter and myself are now at the front, and will remain until the emergency is over.

I am, general, &c.,

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 18, 1864.

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

I have information that Steuart's brigade has been re-enforced to-day by the Forty-seventh and Fifty-fifth Virginia and the Thirty-fifth Georgia.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 18, 1864.

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding Army of the James:

Cannot the two guns belonging to Captain Howell's (Third New York) battery, that are at present at Deep Bottom, be brought up on this line?

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864—2.50 p. m.

Brigadier-General GRAHAM:

General Butler has returned, and copies of your dispatches relative to the anticipated attack on your lines, &c., have been sent to him. It will also be necessary for you to communicate with him in regard to the section of the Third New York Battery that you wish returned to your command.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRAHAM:

Have you received my telegram announcing General Butler's return? This, of course, relieves you from reporting to me, as I am now in command of the Tenth Corps only.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
New Berne, N. C., November 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff, Army of the United States:

GENERAL: I have the honor to invite your attention to the fact that my cavalry is very greatly in need of horses, and to respectfully but earnestly urge that the deficiency be supplied with as little delay as is practicable. I have now in this command some 1,200 cavalry (mounted and dismounted). Of these but 720 are mounted, leaving a deficiency of

480 horses to be supplied. In a country like this and with such attenuated lines as it has been necessary to establish to control so great a territory with so small a force of all arms, a respectable force of well-mounted cavalry is necessary. The present number is only sufficient to do the necessary picket and vedette duty, and occasionally to scout the immediate front to keep the country clear of guerrillas. But with the desired addition I shall be able to constantly harass the enemy, penetrating into his country, cutting his railroads, destroying his bridges and store-houses, and collecting quantities of cotton and tobacco, which, if left alone, will prove a source of large revenue to the rebel Government. I trust that this will meet with your early and favorable consideration, and that the desired number of horses may be sent to the commanding officer of the Twelfth New York Volunteer Cavalry at this place.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding.

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, November 26, 1864.

Approved and respectfully forwarded to Adjutant-General's Office.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

DECEMBER 8, 1864.

Cavalry horses will be issued to Department of North Carolina and Virginia in proportion to numbers of dismounted men, and assigned to such regiments as General Butler may direct.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

BURLINGTON, N. J., *November 19, 1864—1.30 p. m.*
(Received 2 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I start to New York at 3 p. m. If there is any reason for my not going, please telegraph me; or you think I should be at the front, let me know, and I will get there as fast as possible. As any train I would have to take from here to Washington starts from New York, I would likely get there as soon from the latter place as from here.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

BURLINGTON, N. J., *November 19, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

General J. A. RAWLINS,
City Point, Va.:

I left directions for the troops to be in readiness to move in case the enemy should detach largely to the South. Should such a thing occur

telegraph me, and I will get back as fast as steam can carry me. If it is true that Early is going back it behooves General Meade to be well on his guard, and Butler to be ready to re-enforce him at the shortest notice.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 19, 1864—5 p. m.*
(Received 6.30 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
New York:

The following is respectfully forwarded for your information:

NOVEMBER 19, 1864—11 a. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

I have nothing of any importance to transmit to the lieutenant-general this morning. All quiet along my lines. Reports from the different lines from signal officers and from refugees and deserters, of whom some fourteen came in last night—ten deserters—all go to prove no movement or signs of movement on the part of the enemy. On the contrary, they concur in stating the enemy is expecting a movement on our part.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

J. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following deserters came into our lines last evening and this morning: Three from the Fifth and Eighth Florida, Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division; three from the Twenty-eighth and Thirty-seventh North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division; one from the Twenty-sixth North Carolina, MacRae's brigade, Heth's division; one from Tenth Alabama, Forney's brigade, Mahone's division; two from Sixth and Twelfth Virginia, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division; three from Twenty-second and Twenty-third South Carolina, Wallace's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Fifty-ninth Virginia, Wise's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Forty-first Alabama, Gracie's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Twenty-fourth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division—total number, 16. From them we learn that no movements have taken place, and the position of the brigades remains unchanged. Heth's division, on extreme right, with its brigades posted from right to left as follows: Davis, Cooke, Archer, and MacRae. The latter brigade is posted from the Hart to the Daggett house across the Claypole road. Wilcox's division (three brigades of it) posted as follows from right to left: McGowan, Lane, and Scales, extending to the left half a mile east of the Weldon railroad. Johnson's division from Battery No. 31 to the Appomattox, right to left as follows: Wallace, Wise, Gracie, and Ransom. Mahone's division in reserve, doing picket duty on Wilcox's front. Petersburg battalion between Wilcox's and Johnson's divisions. Army suffering considerably for want of shoes and blankets. The men

in Heth's and Wilcox's divisions are erecting huts just to the rear of the trenches. No considerable number of conscripts. An occasional regiment found 300 strong. Almost positive information that Whiting's division is not in this department; certainly not on the right, where it has been reported to be. Nothing in reserve on any part of the line excepting Mahone's division. An intelligent refugee from Petersburg has given valuable topographical information concerning the position of Thomas' brigade on the Chesterfield side. No late change or movements of troops on that side of the river.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 19, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters to-day from MacRae, Lane, Weisiger, Finegan, Forney, Wallace, Wise, Gracie, and Ransom—sixteen in all. No change whatever on this front. Army suffering considerably for want of winter clothing.

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: No movements visible this morning, excepting a small train of wagons numbering ten moved toward Richmond from Pocahontas. The following messages were intercepted yesterday:

11.15 A. M.

Major P.:

One regiment of infantry came from Bermuda Hundred and is now drilling in front of Dunn's. Steamer just came up the river and stopped off Strahan's lower landing. Gun-boats in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

3.45.

Major P.:

I report a train of seventeen coaches and one of five flats, two loaded with troops. Fifty wagons and eleven ambulances passed rear of Battery 5 going toward enemy's left. Thirty wagons and four ambulances passed same battery going toward City Point. Several bodies of skirmishers drilling in rear of Hare's house.

H.,
Sergeant.

4.30 P. M.

Colonel B.:

I attacked the enemy's picket-line last night and captured about 150 prisoners with slight loss on our side.
(Same to A. B.)

Fog prevented my reading the remainder of message.

HOLMAN,
At Walthall House.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The station at the Avery house reports:

At 12 m. a train of twelve wagons passed to our right on road northwest of Pocahontas—the Richmond road. Between 1 p. m. and 4 p. m. several trains, amounting to fifty-six wagons and one ambulance, came toward our left on the same road. At 3.45 p. m. a train of eleven wagons passed on the same road to the right. Considerable activity apparent on roads to-day, but no movements of troops seen to-day. A train of cars came from Richmond, passing Petersburg on the opposite side of the river.

I do not understand about this train of cars and have telegraphed for additional information. There must be some mistake or they have laid a new track.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: It seems from the answer I have received that the train of cars seen was upon a new track. I will locate it to-morrow.

Plank road station reports:

Had a good view most of the day. All quiet.

Walthall station sends the following intercepted messages:

3 P. M.

Major P.:

I report there have passed two trains, one of ten and one of fifteen coaches, three of which had soldiers on top, going toward enemy's left. Two trains and five wagons passed going toward City Point. But little activity observed.

B. C.,
At D.

STEUART'S FRONT—4 p. m.

Colonel B.:

The enemy has been shelling our camp since early this a. m. Forty wagons passed going toward Fort Harrison and five the opposite direction. Owing to the fog could make no observations.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

Station in front of Fort Howard reports a small working party engaged upon works near the lead-works. Church road station reports no change visible in enemy's lines. At 11 a. m. a train of cars passed into Petersburg on South Side Railroad.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 313. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 19, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. Brig. Gen. J. L. Chamberlain, U. S. Volunteers, having reported to the major-general commanding, in compliance with paragraph 20,

Special Orders, No. 395, of November 12, 1864, from the War Department, is assigned to duty with the Fifth Army Corps, and will report for further instructions to the commander of that corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 19, 1864. (Received 10.22 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

No changes to report since yesterday.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 19, 1864—10.30 a. m.
(Received 10.40 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Eight deserters, two white men refugees, four negro men, and one woman came into my lines during the night. The deserters represent Wallace's, Gracie's, Ransom's, and Wise's brigades, of Johnson's division. Two of them are from Mahone's division, which they say holds the extreme right of their line or is in reserve. They all represent that the enemy are making no movement at present. The man who has been furnishing facilities for refugees and negroes to cross the river into our lines is among the party. The negroes state that the enemy are daily expecting a movement on our part. I send you a Richmond paper of the 18th, which they brought over. The Richmond paper states that when last heard from Sherman was at Jonesborough, on his road to Macon.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 19, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

One of our men of Gibbon's division penetrated the enemy's line at 11.30 last night through the abatis without detection. The enemy were found still occupying their picket-lines lightly, and the rifle-pits in the usual force. I merely send this as a corroboration of what the deserters and refugees stated this morning. I was aware of the facts before this, but was waiting official information.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 19, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I last night sent out scouts in my front, one [of] whom penetrated the enemy's line and found them

in force and no indications of a move. Several deserters and refugees came in last night, and were forwarded to corps headquarters at once. They gave no information of a move of any kind.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 19, 1864—10.12 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the past twenty-four hours. Three deserters received, viz: Two from Sixteenth Virginia, one from Tenth Alabama. Mrs. Burgess and three children (refugees) came into our lines.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 288. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *November 19, 1864.*

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VIII. Bvt. Brig. Gen. James Gwyn, assigned in orders from these headquarters to First Division, is transferred to the Second Division, and will report to Brigadier-General Ayres, commanding.

IX. Brig. Gen. J. L. Chamberlain, U. S. Volunteers, having reported, in compliance with paragraph 2, Special Orders, No. 313, of this date, from headquarters Army of the Potomac, is assigned to the First Division, and will report to Brigadier-General Griffin, commanding.

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By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 166. HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS, *November 19, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. J. L. Chamberlain, having reported in compliance with paragraph 9, of Special Orders, No. 288, headquarters Fifth Corps, is hereby assigned to the command of First Brigade of this division.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 19, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing new along our lines. A deserter from the Twenty-sixth North Carolina came into our lines last evening. Knows of no movements of the enemy.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
November 19, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that a scouting party sent yesterday to Disputanta met a scouting [party] of the enemy, and in a skirmish one of our men was killed and four were missing. Upon the return of the scouting party another of increased strength was sent out; this party went about seven miles beyond Disputanta, and there met a scouting party of the enemy. Of the enemy, three were killed and two captured. Our loss was four horses killed. The party has just returned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 19, 1864—3 p. m.*
(Received 8 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

All quiet to this hour. The enemy have got a portion of the picket-line near Ware Bottom Church, but have made no farther advance.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

BROADWAY LANDING, VA., *November 19, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

General Benham informs me that he understands that the Artillery Reserve trains are to be ordered to the front. If so, if the company of foot artillery accompany them the ten siege guns in position at City Point will be left without cannoneers. I would therefore request that a company be ordered to report to me to serve them, or that they may be removed from the line. I have no available men for them.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 19, 1864.

Col. H. L. ABBOT, *Broadway Landing:*

The company of heavy artillery is not to be withdrawn.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

FORT BRADY, VA., *November 19, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT, *Commanding Siege Artillery:*

COLONEL: Have the honor to report no trouble from the enemy's mortars to-day. Major Birney was here to try a few shots at the houses near the rebel battery that fires at Dutch Gap from just in rear of the point of woods; distance, 1,500 yards. Used two common shell to get the range. Struck the chimney the first time, and made a perceptible

hole in the roof the second. Then loaded with one of his shell, which went a trifle over, owing to the greater weight, and struck in the water without bursting. Tried another, which passed in at the front door, struck the chimney on the opposite side, burst, and completely filled the building with burning liquid. Just as the fire began to appear through the roof sent another shell, which burst like the previous one, and in an instant almost the whole house was wrapped in flames; the most beautiful sight you ever saw. Would have given the world (or a portion) to have had you here. Used the Tice concussion fuse; it operates to a charm. Major Birney is coming here to-morrow. This is all preparatory to the grand test in presence of the great men. The major expressed himself surprised at the accuracy of our gunners. Colonel, I have great confidence in these shell and in the Tice fuse. Am exceedingly anxious to have you come and judge of their efficacy. Should you be convinced of their superiority over the common shell, would solicit the privilege of using them altogether. It is no humbug. We all thought it was until to-day's practice. Major Birney claims that these shell will burst into more pieces than the common, with much less charge of powder, owing to the gas generated by heating the liquid. Promises to send me Captain Benton's report to prove the matter; shall forward it to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 19, 1864.

BRIGADE COMMANDERS:

You will have your commands under arms immediately and ready to move at a moment's notice.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

T. ELLERY LORD,
Capt., Third Infantry, New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 19, 1864.

BRIGADE COMMANDERS:

The troops may be dismissed and go to their quarters. The attack was on the Bermuda front, and there is no further apprehension of an attack at present on this line.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

T. ELLERY LORD,
Capt., Third Infantry, New York Vols., Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

NEW YORK CITY, *November 20, 1864—9.30 p. m.*
(Received 12.25 a. m. 21st.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK, *Chief of Staff:*

Dispatches from City Point making it evident that much of Early's force is going to Richmond, I think it advisable to send the Sixth Corps there at once. One division of cavalry should also go unless they can get through to cut the Central road and canal.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 20, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
New York:

Our agent, who left Richmond at 5 p. m. last evening, brings the following information:

Kershaw's division began to arrive in Richmond on Friday afternoon at 4 p. m. Some of it passed through during the night and also yesterday. By the rough calculations of citizens who send us the information, it was supposed that the division amounted to nearly 10,000 men. The fact of its arrival is undoubted. The markets in Richmond yesterday were filled with Kershaw's men, and one of our agents, a marketman, had his stall robbed by them. The troops passed through to the south side. They said themselves that they were going to Chesterfield. Citizens in Richmond, in talking about it, said they were on their way to Longstreet. Their arrival gave rise to considerable discussion in Richmond as to whether Lee expected to attack or be attacked. For two or three days an order has been in force that the Central road would not be open except for military purposes. It is reported in Richmond that the greater part of Sheridan's forces have arrived here; that the first of his regiments began to debark on the north side of the James on Thursday last; that Sheridan himself has remained in the Valley with a small part of his army. Yesterday afternoon it was reported in Richmond that more troops would come from the Valley, but whether this rested upon any authority other than that the order in regard to the Central road is still in force is not known. It was also reported in Richmond that such of Early's men as remain in the Valley were to fall back to Mount Jackson and go into winter quarters there. More torpedoes have been placed in front of Fort Darling.

J. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to Secretary of War and Major-General Sheridan.)

FORT MONROE, *November 20, 1864.*
(Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Several refugees report a mine on the right of Lee's lines, between the Boydton and Jerusalem plank road, to blow a hill to our left in case we occupy it.

SHEPLEY,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The following deserters received to-day: Two from Fifth Florida, Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Tenth Alabama, Forney's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Sixteenth Virginia, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Ninth Florida, Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Twenty-fourth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division. No changes in enemy's position. No arrivals from Longstreet's command or any information concerning Kershaw's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Three rebel deserters, who left their respective regiments since noon to-day, are from the following commands, viz: Eighth Alabama, Wilcox's brigade; Sixth Virginia, Weisiger's brigade; Sixteenth Mississippi, Harris' brigade. They report no recent changes on enemy's position, nor have they heard of the arrival of any troops, but it was generally reported that Kershaw's division would soon join Longstreet. It was also reported that General Sheridan's troops were arriving here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 20, 1864.

CORPS COMMANDERS:

Reliable intelligence has been received of the passage through Richmond to Petersburg of Kershaw's division, and as it is not improbable that the enemy may attempt some offensive operation before Sheridan's forces can return, the commanding general desires that every precaution be taken to detect and meet any movement, and that unusual vigilance be observed.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 20, 1864—9 a. m. (Received 10.02 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 20, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Received 10.40 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

A deserter from Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division, came into my lines last night. He states that the enemy are making no movements.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND CORPS,
November 20, 1864.

Capt. GEORGE SAVAGE,
Comdg. Picket-Line, Third Brig., Third Div., Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: The colonel commanding is informed that the enemy are advancing their picket-line in front of the Crater, and he desires that you keep up a lively fire in that vicinity, and discover, if possible, how much of their line they are advancing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THOS. H. DUNHAM,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 20, 1864. (Received 9.25 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet in my front during the past twenty-four hours. Eight deserters received, viz: Three from Fifth Florida; two from Eighth Florida; two from Twenty-eighth North Carolina; one from Thirty-seventh North Carolina.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 60. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 20, 1864.

Surg. T. R. Spencer, U. S. Volunteers, having been assigned to duty at these headquarters as medical director of this corps in the place of Surg. J. J. Milhau, U. S. Army, relieved by orders from the War Department, is announced as such, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 32. HDQRS. SECOND DIV., FIFTH CORPS,
November 20, 1864.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. James Gwyn, U. S. Volunteers, having been assigned to duty on his brevet rank by the President, and having been ordered to duty with this division, will take command of the Third Brigade.

By command of Brigadier-General Ayres:

C. E. LA MOTTE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 20, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing new along our lines.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 20, 1864.

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Please let me know at once by telegraph what two regiments of colored troops were sent to General Butler's army night before last.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 20, 1864.

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Have the two regiments of white troops that were to have been sent to you in the place of the two colored regiments transferred to General Butler's army reported to you? If so, what regiments are they? Please answer by telegraph.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 20, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Your two dispatches just received. The Twenty-ninth and Thirty-first U. S. Colored Troops were ordered to report to General Graham at Point of Rocks. I have heard of their arrival. The two regiments that were sent from General Butler's army have not reported.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 20, 1864—4.20 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Burlington, N. J.:

All remains quiet here. Kershaw's division passed Richmond Friday. Deserters report that two brigades of it are encamped at Chaffin's farm, and the rest of it at Chesterfield. It is possible there may be an attempt to break through our lines. We will endeavor to watch it. Richmond papers insist that Sheridan's forces have arrived and are encamped on the north side of the James. Have ordered two regiments of colored troops of the Ninth Corps to the Bermuda lines. Have not sent back the two regiments of Pennsylvania troops because of Kershaw's movements. It is reported at Richmond that the remainder of Early's troops have gone into winter quarters at Mount Jackson. We are in the midst of a very severe storm, which has lasted thirty-six hours. Roads nearly impassable.

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 20, 1864.

Major-General MEADE:

Major-General Butler desires to know if you will send him a roster of your colored troops, and when you can send them to him in exchange for the Pennsylvania Provisional troops.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 20, 1864—5 p. m. (Sent 5.45 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff, Major-General Butler's Headquarters:

The following regiments U. S. Colored Troops are now with this army: Nineteenth, Twenty-third, Twenty-seventh, Twenty-eighth, Thirtieth, Thirty-ninth, and Forty-third. The Twenty-ninth and Thirty-first Regiments U. S. Colored Troops were sent to report to Brigadier-General Graham the night of the 18th instant, in compliance with instructions received from Brigadier-General Rawlins, chief of staff, headquarters Lieutenant-General Grant. The only orders that have reached me in relation to sending the colored troops of this army to General Butler's command are contained in General Rawlins' dispatch, of which I herewith submit a copy.* The order for the general transfer of the colored troops alluded to in the dispatch has not yet been received by me. General Parke informs me that the two regiments of white troops that were to have been sent to him when the two colored regiments transferred from the Ninth Corps reported to General Graham have not yet joined him.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 20, 1864. (Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Major-General Butler desires me to say that he would have sent you the two white regiments but for the arrival of Kershaw's division in his front, and also the inclemency of the weather.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 145.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 20, 1864.

I. Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby announced as chief of staff of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, and of the Army of the James.

II. Capt. H. B. Scott, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, is hereby announced upon the staff of the major-general commanding this department and army.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Rawlins to Meade, November 18, p. 638.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 20, 1864—1.20 a. m.

Major-General BUTLER:

A deserter just in reports that he saw last night two brigades just arrived from Early's army encamped at Chaffin's Bluff.

G. WEITZEL,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 20, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

I have just received a commission as major-general. I thank you sincerely for it.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH CORPS,
November 20, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

A deserter reports that two divisions of Early's army arrived Friday night and encamped four miles this side of Richmond; that Sheridan's army is supposed to be here or on the way here, and that Sherman is near Milledgeville, Ga.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
November 20, 1864.

Brevet Major-General WEITZEL:

General Butler believes that General Early's troops are in your front.

P. S. MICHIE,
Brevet Major, U. S. Army.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 20, 1864.

Brigadier-General DEVENS,
Commanding First Division:

The general commanding directs that you instruct your command and pickets to be on the alert.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. D. WHEELER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 20, 1864.

Commanding officers will caution all regimental commanders that particular vigilance may be exercised to-night and to-morrow morning, as they will both be peculiarly adapted for a surprise.

By command of Brigadier-General Devens:

GEO. A. BRUCE.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. C. DEVENS,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you will cause to be thrown up a work in front of your line, on the site and of such form and dimensions as shall be indicated by Lieutenant King, U. S. Engineers. You will see that the second line of abatis is completed, and that it is placed so as not to obstruct the fire from our own works. The abatis already constructed will also be made to satisfy the same conditions, and it will be properly connected with that of the Tenth Corps. The breast-work will be completed across the ravine to unite with the left of the Tenth Corps. The revetment will be cut off close to the top log, and at an angle of about 45° with the horizon. All huts or other obstructions within about fifteen paces of the line of breast-works will be removed and the ground leveled to admit the free passage of troops or artillery. The stockade commenced by Battery No. 1 will not be completed, but the ditch dug for it will be filled, and the timber used in revetting the breast-height of the new battery. All engineering tools or materials along the line, not absolutely necessary in carrying out these instructions, will be turned in to Lieutenant King, U. S. Engineers, at these headquarters, and no other engineering operations than those herein mentioned will be commenced until these are completed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 20, 1864.

Col. WILLIAM M. MCCLURE,
Commanding Third Brigade:

I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to forward the following for your information:

Information has been received from Major-General Butler that he believes that General Early, with his forces, is on our front.

The brigadier-general commanding directs that the officers in command of the pickets keep their men on the alert, and commanding officers of brigades have their commands in readiness for any emergency.

By command of Brig. Gen. C. A. Heckman:

WM. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 20, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Brig. Gen. C. K. GRAHAM,
Commanding Bermuda Line:

I am informed that Kershaw's division has arrived in our front. I think that part of it may have gone to yours. Keep good watch and keep me informed of what takes place.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

NORFOLK, *November 20, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Several refugees report a mine on the right of Lee's lines between the Boydton and Jerusalem plank roads, to blow up a hill to our left in case we occupy it.

SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

(Copy to General Patrick.)

CITY POINT, VA., *November 21, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Have you any information of any changes or movements of the enemy in your front? If so, please communicate the same to these headquarters.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

(Same to General Butler.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 21, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

I have no information of any movement or change on my front. The pickets on my extreme left reported an unusual running of cars last night on the South Side Railroad; trains reported moving apparently both ways, into and out of Petersburg. Deserters state a report was in circulation that Early's forces were returning to Richmond.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Rebel deserters from the following commands have been received to-day, viz: Four from Sixtieth Alabama, Gracie's brigade; one from Twenty-fourth Virginia, Wise's brigade; four from Twenty-fourth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade; one from Twenty-third South Carolina, Wallace's brigade; one from Eleventh Florida, Finegan's brigade. They report no recent changes in enemy's position, except that there is a general rumor circulating to the effect that Ewell's command has arrived at Richmond. They know nothing of the running of cars on the South Side Railroad, and all of them came in on the line of the Second Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 21, 1864—10.25 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

No changes have occurred in this command during the last twenty-four hours.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 21, 1864—10.10 a. m. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: I send you nine deserters from Wise's, Gracie's, and Ransom's brigades, of Johnson's division. They came in last night. They have no news.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 21, 1864—9.20 p. m. (Received 9.50 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: Some deserters of Ransom's and Wallace's brigades have come in this evening. They say everything is quiet in their lines. One of them says that the commissary sergeant of his regiment told him that three trains had come in this morning to Petersburg loaded with cavalry, understood to be from the Valley. It was rumored that Early was re-enforcing Lee, although he had not seen any troops from Early. One of the deserters says that they had beef issued to them to-day, which was said to have escaped from our lines last night and gone over to them, creating quite a confusion among them, and that Wright's brigade was drawn up to meet them, supposing it to be an attack from us.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
November 21, 1864.

Capt. J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division, Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: In reply to your communication received last evening I have the honor to state that on the 25th ultimo, the day before the last movement to the left, there was issued to the troops of this command one day's ration of codfish. It was nearly all thrown away by the men; I saw one brigade amusing themselves by throwing it at each other. I made inquiries in regard to it, and was informed by my officer that the men had no means of cooking it while on the march, and to eat it raw would make an excuse for straggling by constantly falling out for water, and for this reason the men threw it away rather than carry it along, not knowing when they would have an opportunity to cook it. I consider it, as a ration, lost to the men to issue it at such a time. The cause of the present deficiency in rations is partially owing to that

issue. I would, therefore, respectfully recommend that no more salt fish be issued to this brigade while on the march or anticipating a march.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. PIERCE,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
November 21, 1864.

Capt. J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Third Division, Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to state that a heavy fire was kept up by our picket-line last night so as to prevent the enemy working. Notwithstanding, they have succeeded in advancing and connecting many of their pits, with the apparent intention of continuing to their left, in front of the Crater fort.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. MCALLISTER,
Colonel Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along my front during the past twenty-four hours. Five rebel deserters arrived—one from Sixth Virginia, one from Sixteenth Virginia, one from Eighth Alabama, one from Tenth Alabama, one from Sixteenth Mississippi.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing new along our lines during the past twenty-four hours.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 21, 1864. (Sent 2.41 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Could it be distinguished which way those cars were running—whether toward Petersburg or from it?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 21, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

In reply to your telegram I send the following just received from General Griffin, corps officer of the day:

The trains were running both ways. A heavy train, evidently a freight train, came into toward Petersburg just before daylight. The others were of a different character and passed frequently. The direction could not always be distinguished and sometimes was not observed. I will keep a special watch for them to-night.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 21, 1864.

Maj. P. M. LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

MAJOR: Since reporting at headquarters this morning, I have had further conversation with the officers of my own picket-line on duty last night, and learn that the cars within the enemy's lines were not only running early this morning, as I reported to the general, but that they were constantly running during the entire night, stopping frequently at points along the road directly opposite this place. This is an unusual movement, the night before only one train having been heard to pass over the same road. But few trains have been heard running within the last twenty days.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. G. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Corps Officer of the Day.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 21, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Burlington, N. J.:

All quiet to this hour. A little picket-firing on the Bermuda line last night. Raining very heavily. Roads impassable.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 21, 1864—7.50 p. m.

General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

I have no information of any change save what I have communicated by telegraph to the lieutenant-general; that is to say, that Kershaw's division has come in our front and in front of Bermuda. Deserters report nothing else. I have sent you the Richmond papers of to-day, but they have nothing. It is reported, however, that another division from Early is coming in on our extreme right near Darbytown road, but I think it is part of Kershaw's.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding directs me to inquire what regiments of your division were sent to report to General Graham on the Bermuda line, and to request you to have their tents and baggage forwarded to them immediately.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. P. SHREVE,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 21, 1864.

[Lieut. W. P. SHREVE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:]

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to state, in compliance with instructions this day received, that the troops from this command ordered to report to Brigadier-General Graham were the following: One hundredth New York Volunteers, 75 men; Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, 175 men; Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers, 230 men; One hundred and ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, 20 men; total, 500 men.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES DEVENS,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to ask what precautions, if any, you have taken to guard your picket-line against such incursions as have lately been made by the enemy on our Petersburg and Bermuda front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. D. WHEELER,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brigadier-General Heckman, commanding Second, and Brigadier-General Paine, commanding Third Division.)

HATCHER'S, *November 21, 1864—2.30 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Commanding:

Nothing but picket-firing; commenced by rebels; stopped by our batteries.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

ENGINEER'S OFFICE, DEPT. OF VA. AND N. CAROLINA,
November 21, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. G. BARNARD,
Chief Engineer, Armies in the Field, Va.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that your communication reached me late last night and beg leave to submit the following, viz:

In the event of the withdrawal of the Army of the James from its present position for operations elsewhere there will arise two cases. In both cases it will be necessary to hold the bridge-head at Deep Bottom, to insure us the navigation of the James River as far as Aiken's Landing, and the position at Cox's Hill (Fort Brady) for the advantages that will accrue to us from the probable success of Dutch Gap Canal. For these works it will require, I think, not less than 800 men for Deep Bottom and 300 men for Fort Brady in addition to their artillery, which garrisons might be reduced one-third in case they were garrisoned by excellent men with Spencer rifles.

1st. Complete evacuation. In this event it may safely be concluded that no future movement can again be made north of the James, allowing the enemy to possess the least common sense. For having shown them their mistakes previous to the present operations they will begin at once to shut up the avenues of approach on all their main roads. Occupying Camp Holly and Signal Hill with one or two strong redoubts, they will seal up the Darbytown, Long Bridge, and New Market roads, and their holding Fort Harrison will close the Varina road to us ever after. All other roads require such long flank marches to gain as to make the possibility of any future advance on this side entirely out of the question. Under these circumstances I do not think it advisable to waste labor on the destruction of any part of our present line.

2d. Partial evacuation. This will require a force of not less than 2,500 men under excellent officers. This is a very small estimate indeed, and may be too small, but acting always on the defensive—300 men at Signal Hill, 500 at Camp Holly, 200 in the redoubt at Four-Mile Creek, 300 at Fort Brady, and the remainder distributed in the redoubts and batteries of the new line in front of Deep Bottom, could resist any determined attack, if not greater than the usual disproportionate force attacking earth-works. This arrangement it will be seen requires 1,400 men more than the first, and it is for higher authority to decide whether the advantages it gives are worth the men. The enemy may simply content themselves with occupying their old lines, throwing out a picket to watch our movements, or may select a new line below Four-Mile Church if unable to get us out of our redoubts. In regard to the present disposition of our present line in this case, I agree with you that that portion from Fort Brady to Fort Harrison need not be disturbed. The enemy will not occupy it, since their old line will be better suited for their purposes. The destruction of the gorge of the latter is advisable and could be imperfectly done in one night by 500 men. You will have noticed that its command is very slight, not more than five feet above the crest of the hill, but the parapet makes up in thickness. The traverse that runs through it could be used by them as a front, however, and we could not destroy it without awakening their suspicions. From Fort Harrison to the left redoubt on the Tenth Corps front (5) no labor need be expended. There are three good strong redoubts (5, 4, and 3) on this front whose gorges should be destroyed quietly by the regiments nearest them the night before leaving, and completed the day following. If this is done effectually it will necessitate them either to advance a front and two faces to each work or throw

up anew its old gorge for a front and retire the curtains to the rear (our present front). They will propably connect with Redoubt No. 3, where our line turns with their at present abandoned line, leaving that portion of ours running south standing, or will destroy it.

Redoubts (1 and 2) on the New Market road should be destroyed and the woods slashed near the Kingsland road, as indicated in the tracing. I should like to be informed at least four days, if possible, before the contemplated movement. I would destroy the gorges the night before, finishing the following day with small detachments. I would call on the regiments that are close at hand to furnish the working parties, and I think I could manage so that no information could be gained as to the object of the work. With regard to bomb-proofs in the works, I think Fort Brady is the only one that needs them, and this work has one ninety feet long. All have capacious magazines and those on Camp Holly and Signal Hill contain wells sufficient to supply their garrisons. There is so much slashing necessary that I shall direct it to commence to-morrow in any case. With regard to your suggestions about the mines in the embankment of Dutch Gap Canal, I am sensible that your plan will be the most certain of success, and therefore I have this afternoon directed such changes to be made as circumstances will allow. I forward to you also a tracing of the Bermuda front. The weather has been so unfavorable since the receipt of your communication that nothing additional could be learned in regard to the enemy's line. I have myself been as near as one could go with safety some two months ago, and judge the following to be their general character: The accompanying tracing shows the line as it was hurriedly surveyed on the 16th of June during its temporary evacuation by the enemy. From the best information in our possession there are two lines of abatis, and in some places through the woods in front of our right another of fraise or wire, or both, in front of the line. The parapet is not formidable, but of the same character as that we now occupy. The ditch is not deep in front of infantry parapets. On the line in front of the open space eleven embrasures can be counted, and to the left (our right), just behind the woods, is a battery of six guns, formerly. The line is regarded as impregnable by them, but I think they may possess too great confidence, for it may be pierced by first-rate troops, although with a heavy loss. The advantages, if successful, however, would more than repay whatever loss we might sustain. The attacking force should be well supported, as a heavy force of the enemy could soon be brought to the point of attack. A good line of defense could be made with its right resting at the Howlett house and crossing the railroad north of the Port Walthall Junction, so as to command both railroad and the turnpike; then refusing the left and resting on Bake-House Creek. This line could be made defensible in twelve hours after occupation, and would not be more than four miles long. The recent capture of a portion of our picket-line by the enemy in front of Redoubt McConihe may interfere with secrecy, as they now have a view of the open ground behind the woods.

Very respectfully, &c.,

PETER S. MICHIE,

Lieut., U. S. Engineers, Brevet Major, U. S. Army, Chief Engineer.

[Indorsement.]

The method styled "partial evacuation" seems to me to be the proper one, and is, indeed, that which I indicated to Major Michie when I went over the ground and directed him to prepare this report. I had directed

the gorge of Fort Harrison to be taken down at once, and had supposed it being done. It would appear from this report that it has not been done. In fact, to make the operations effectual the large traverse and bomb-proof erected by ourselves parallel to the gorge would have come down, and this could hardly be done without revealing our intentions to the enemy, and as Richmond papers universally indicate that they think us preparing for some grand operation on that side, I thought it would be injurious to do anything which would undeceive them. I gave no orders for destroying gorges of small works on the line because, 1st, I thought it would not amount to much anyway, and 2d, I thought it best not to do it until the night before evacuation. Major Michie asks four days' notice of intended evacuation. This may or may not be given, but I would like the lieutenant-general to understand the state of the case before renewing orders for destruction of gorge of Fort Harrison or other gorges or works.

J. G. B.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 22, 1864—11 a. m. (Sent 1.25 p. m.)

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

I have nothing to report this morning beyond the fact observed last night again of the constant running of trains on the South Side Railroad, reported as before, as apparently going both ways and stopping in the presumed vicinity of the enemy's lines. I am unable to form any judgment from this report as to whether the enemy is re-enforcing his right, or sending away troops. Deserters report no movements, but say it was generally understood Early's troops were all moving back.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *November 22, 1864.*
(Received 8.50 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE:

Please order a regiment of colored troops of your command to report to post commander at City Point for fatigue duty, &c., in the quartermaster's department.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 22, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Twenty rebel deserters have arrived within our lines and reported at this office to-day. They are from the following commands,

viz: Five from Finegan's brigade, seven from Ransom's brigade, three from Lane's brigade, one from MacRae's brigade, one from Wilcox's brigade, one from Wallace's brigade, two from Washington Artillery. They report no recent changes in enemy's position, and assign as the principal reason for coming over the fact of Mr. Lincoln's re-election and no prospect of the war ending. They report the arrival of a part of Early's command at Richmond, but cannot tell whose command it is or what disposition has been made of them. One man who was at Petersburg yesterday learned nothing of their arrival on the south side the Appomattox. Conscripts are coming in slowly. About a week ago Lane's brigade received 300 from North Carolina. A man from Lane's brigade, who frequently hears from home, reports that there are 15,000 Federal prisoners at Salisbury, N. C. Captain Paine saw the two artillerymen from whom he elicited considerable information regarding the enemy's works, the number of their forts, number of guns in them, &c. These men know nothing of the running of cars on the railroads, and all of them came into the lines of the Fifth Corps and Second Division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 22, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Jansen reports three trains as having passed to our left on road beyond Petersburg. Sergeants Jordan and Carothers report all quiet. Sergeant Holman reports a new gun mounted in Fort Clifton. Intercepted messages I will send by orderly.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

STATION AT HICKORY TREE, *November 22, 1864.*

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

SIR: I can make nothing of Acting Sergeant Jansen's report of a new railroad in the city. There is an old road running toward rear of Cemetery Hill, in course from city about south, that enemy runs engines over occasionally. In the evening on which he reports discovering new road two engines went down this road toward enemy's right. This I take to be the Weldon railroad, and I think the one he sees.

Very respectfully,

A. C. JORDAN,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

AVERY'S HOUSE, *November 22, 1864.*

Major FISHER:

Sergeants Holman and Jordan have not discovered the railroad. I have given them the points where they may see the cars as they pass.

JANSEN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 22, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The following messages have been intercepted to-day at Sergeant Holman's station:

10 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

No change since last eve. Transport off Strahan's lower landing. Gun-boats in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to C.)

2.40 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Four transports came up the river loaded with troops, and landed at Port Walthall. Transports then went back down the river.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to C.)

3 P. M.

Major P.:

I report there have passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, three trains—one of eleven, one of eight, and one of seven flats—and twenty-eight wagons. In rear of same battery, going toward City Point, two trains—one of eight flats, and the other of seven flats and two box-cars.

B. C.,
At D.

STEUART'S FRONT—4 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet. No enemy's camps in immediate front. No change since yesterday p. m. The enemy are busy building winter quarters. Some sort of a machine at work at the canal at Dutch Gap. I can see the pits of the enemy's picket-line. They appear to be continued. They are nearer our front than their first advance. Mounted men are passing up and down the river. Forty wagons passed up and thirty down the river. Four companies of cavalry passed in rear of Battery D, going to our right. Steamer just passed down the river.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to C.)

I. THICKSTUN.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 22, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The following messages have just been received:

CHURCH ROAD STATION, *November 22—5 p. m.*

Lieutenant CLARKE:

A working party of about twenty-five men has been engaged all day in strengthening the enemys' works to our right of Boisseau's property. They are also constructing winter quarters at several points on this front. At 11 a. m. a train of five closed cars passed out of Petersburg on South Side Railroad; the railroad cars distinctly seen at a point about 10 degrees east of this station.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

STATION FRONT OF FORT HOWARD—5.30 p. m.

Lieutenant CLARKE:

No change in the enemy's lines in this front observed to-day. A small working party engaged on old line near lead-works. All quiet in enemy's camps.

AIKEN,
Sergeant.

Sleeper reports that he can see the South Side Railroad in three places.

Respectfully,

CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 22, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Carothers reports all quiet. No changes; no movements. Jordan reports several small infantry camps in rear of Cemetery Hill and one camp of light wall tents. No old camps removed. Point where cars disappeared, 8 degrees north of west. Two trains passed this morning.

THICKSTUN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

No changes to report during last twenty-four hours.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 22, 1864. (Sent 10.43 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general does not care to have the four days' rations kept on the persons of the troops, but they must be kept on hand and where they can be issued at very short notice. The rations issued for the four days must be made to hold out for that time.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 194. } HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND CORPS,
November 22, 1864.

I. Your* battery will relieve at once, by section, the Twelfth New York Battery, now in Fort Haskell. Immediately on receipt of this order you will send one section of guns, guided by the bearer of this order, to Fort Haskell, and relieve one section of the Twelfth New York Battery, which will move to Fort Alexander Hays. As soon as the first section of the Twelfth New York is in Fort Alexander Hays you will send a second section to Fort Haskell, relieving the remainder of the Twelfth New York Battery. As soon as all the Twelfth New York

* Order addressed to Captain Woerner.

(four guns) is in Fort Alexander Hays you will move your third section and all your caissons and entire camp to near Meade's Station, occupying the ground formerly the camp of the Twelfth New York Battery. You will report in writing as soon as in position in Fort Haskell.

II. The Third New Jersey Battery will relieve the Twelfth New York Battery, by section, as soon as possible. As each section is relieved it will proceed to Fort Alexander Hays and be placed in position. The commanding officer of the Twelfth New York Battery will keep out of sight of the enemy as far as practicable, and report in writing as soon as in position in Fort Alexander Hays.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 22, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to request that efforts be made to effect the exchange of the following-named officers of this division: Col. John Fraser, One hundred and fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, a very valuable officer, captured June 22, 1864, while in command of the Fourth Brigade, and now confined at Charleston, S. C.; Capt. John S. McEwan, Seventh New York Volunteer Artillery, and judge-advocate of this division, captured at Deep Bottom, Va., July 28, 1864, released on parole and now at Albany, N. Y., a good officer and much needed at the present time.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on my front during the past twenty-four hours. Four deserters received, viz: One from Twenty-third South Carolina, one from Twenty-eighth Georgia, one from Sixty-fourth Georgia, one from Eleventh Florida.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 22, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

Nothing unusual transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours. A deserter from Twenty-sixth North Carolina came in last night. Several trains of cars passed each way during the night, but nothing definite could be discovered in relation to them.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 22, 1864—9 p. m.

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

In compliance with instructions received from headquarters Armies of the United States, the commanding general directs that you order one of the colored regiments of your command to report to the post commander at City Point for fatigue duty, &c., in the quartermaster's department.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 22, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

All quiet. Two divisions of Early's men reported on the Darbytown road.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

NOVEMBER 22, 1864.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War:

The navy are ready with their 150 tons. How soon can you send me ours to Fortress Monroe? Vessel is being prepared.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 365. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 22, 1864.

1. In obedience to instructions received from the lieutenant-general commanding the Armies of the United States the following regiments are hereby relieved from duty in this department and will proceed to the Army of the Potomac and report to Major-General Meade commanding, viz: Two hundred and seventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Intry and Two hundred and ninth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler.

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Last Friday morning 500 men were sent from this corps to re-enforce the Bermuda line. By direction of Brigadier-General Ames, then commanding the corps, this force was sent from the First

Division alone and was made up as follows: From the One hundredth New York Volunteers, 75 men; Twenty-fourth Massachusetts, 175; Sixty-second Ohio, 230; One hundred and ninety-ninth Pennsylvania, 20. I respectfully request permission to so change this detail as to make it consist of two complete organizations, amounting in the whole to the same number of men.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALFRED H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 23, 1864.*

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Washington, D. C.:

General Meade forwards the following dispatch from General Hancock, and says it is all the intelligence he has to communicate at present; that—

Johnson has a South Carolina brigade in his division formerly commanded by Evans, now by Elliott. If any troops are detached by Lee, it would probably be South Carolina and Georgia troops; if they have been sent, they have undoubtedly gone by rail, and intelligence of their departure ought to be received through our Richmond scouts.

I have no information from Butler; suppose you have instructed him to communicate with you direct, and that he is acting in obedience thereto. I have informed General Meade you will be here to-morrow.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
November 23, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: By our agent, who left Richmond yesterday shortly after noon, we learn that Kershaw's division is lying two miles and a half below Richmond, between the stage road and the Charles City road. Bryan's brigade is camped on the Williamsburg road. The provost guard of the division came out of Richmond yesterday morning, and these were the last troops that have passed through the town. There was a camp rumor yesterday in Kershaw's division, overheard by our agent, who stopped in Bryan's brigade, that they were going to Georgia, but he learned nothing to justify such an opinion. No other troops have come from Early, and our friends in Richmond send us word that they have not been able to detect any preparations for it. One of our friends saw a man who left Early's command last Friday, and nothing was gathered from him to show that any more of Early's troops were coming this way. Nothing could be learned in Richmond of Breckinridge's command or its movements. It was quite certain that none of it was arriving in this direction. One of our friends yesterday saw an old acquaintance of his, a teamster belonging to General Wade Hampton's headquarters. He had come direct from General Hampton's headquarters, on the right of the enemy's line, and in a lengthy con-

versation with him nothing could be elicited to show that any troops whatever had been sent from General Lee's army about Petersburg southward. An effort was made to learn if there were indications of any such movement, but nothing could be detected. They say in Richmond that Kershaw's division has been brought down because the enemy expect another attack by us on the north side, and our friends send us word that such is really the opinion. More than ordinary care is observed on the north side; the pickets there have been strengthened; additional and extraordinary rules have been added to prevent the ingress and egress of unreliable persons. Nothing is known in Richmond concerning Sherman, his progress, or whereabouts, except the meager information afforded by the newspapers. Richmond papers of yesterday are forwarded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

(Copy to Lieutenant-General Grant.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 23, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Deserters from the following commands have arrived at this office to-day: Two from Lane's brigade; two from Ransom's brigade; two from Wise's brigade. Five of them have been in the service less than two months, and one from Ransom's brigade has been in the army about three years. They report no changes in the enemy's position. The man to whom General Hancock alludes could not have arrived, as none of these men report any late movement of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 23, 1864.

Captain McENTEE:

The man is very positive about the movement of the brigade. When did the man you had yesterday leave his brigade?

A. A. H[UMPHREYS],
Major-General, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 23, 1864.

[Major-General HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: The man I had yesterday left his regiment early yesterday morning. He was on picket, and may have been left behind when the army moved.

Respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Major FISHER:

A. K. Carothers reports no changes and all quiet. Jordan reports the enemy building quarters in the woods in rear of Fort Clifton.

THICKSTUN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Carothers reports enemy improving works in front of lead-works; also at a point 300 yards to the right of lead-works. All quiet. Sergeant Holman reports considerable activity in enemy's camps during the day. Three pieces of artillery, followed by fifteen wagons, passed rear of Whitehead's, going toward Petersburg.

I. THICKSTUN,
Acting Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 23, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: From the investigations I have since made I have concluded that the train of cars reported to me as being upon a new track upon the north bank of the Appomattox was a mistake. It was upon the old track, which only came into view from this point, the Avery house, at that time. With the exception of a few minor changes all quiet to-day along the enemy's position. Three pieces of artillery, followed by fifteen wagons, passed by the rear of Whitehead's Factory, going toward Petersburg. Small working parties engaged upon works near the lead-works. A train of fifteen box cars went west, and two trains of five cars each came east, upon South Side Railroad this p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

[Major FISHER:]

SIR: The following messages were intercepted to-day at Holman's station:

9 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A train of flats, number unknown, passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left.

B. C.,
At D.

(Same to C.)

9.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

At 9 a. m. a steamer came up the river and stopped at Strahan's lower landing about ten minutes and then went back.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to C.)

12.40 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One steamer came up the river and one went down. Two steamers off Strahan's lower landing. One gun-boat above and one below Fort Walthall.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to C.)

4.15.

Major P.:

I report there have passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, three trains—one of fourteen flats, one of eight box cars and one flat, and one of ten flats and sixty wagons; and rear of same, going toward City Point, two trains—one of eight flats; the other of six box cars, with troops on top, and fifty wagons.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

[THICKSTUN.]

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 414.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, November 23, 1864.

* * * * * * *

3. Maj. Gen. T. L. Crittenden, U. S. Volunteers, will report for duty to Major-General Meade, commanding Army of the Potomac.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes to announce since last report.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864. (Received 10.02 a. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Two deserters came into my lines last night. They have nothing new. They say they are getting some new recruits in their army.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 299.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va.,
November 23, 1864.

1. In accordance with the recommendation of the division commander, the Seventh Regiment New York Heavy Artillery is hereby

transferred from the Fourth to the Second Brigade of the First Division. The commanding officer will report without delay to Col. R. Nugent, commanding Second Brigade.

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By order of Major-General Hancock:

S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Four days' rations need not be kept on the persons of the troops until further orders, but they must be kept on hand and where they can be issued at very short notice. No further issue will be made till the expiration of the four days, unless upon suitable condemnation of deficiencies.

By order of Major-General Hancock:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Corps:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that no change of importance has occurred on the lines during the past twenty-four hours. About 9.30 a. m. yesterday the enemy opened on Battery No. 5 and was replied to by Battery No. 9 and a section in Fort McGilvery. Forty-eight rounds of ammunition expended; also thirty-eight rounds of Coehorn mortars expended on working parties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along my front during the past twenty-four hours. Eleven deserters just received, viz: Two from Battalion Washington Artillery; four from Thirty-third North Carolina; five from Tenth Florida.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 291. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. By authority from headquarters Army of the Potomac leave of absence for three days is granted to Brig. Gen. R. B. Ayres, commanding Second Division.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Warren:

A. S. MARVIN, JR.,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General GWYN,
Commanding Third Brigade:

GENERAL: I have the honor to notify you that Brigadier-General Ayres has received a leave of absence of three days, and which gives you temporary command of this division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. E. LA MOTTE,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Nothing unusual transpired during the past twenty-four hours. A deserter from the Thirty-third North Carolina came in during the night.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 23, 1864.

Colonel ABBOT:

Can you man a few more guns if they should be required in the new batteries near the Avery and Dunn houses? If so, how many? The batteries are both barbette.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

BROADWAY LANDING, *November 23, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HUNT,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

I can only man more guns by further dividing the companies now at Petersburg. If absolutely necessary this might be done so as to put a section in each of the new works.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 132. } HDQRS. 2D DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 23, 1864.

Pursuant to instructions from headquarters Tenth Army Corps, the One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers will proceed to Bermuda Hundred, Va., and report to Brig. Gen. C. K. Graham, U. S. Volunteers, to relieve the small detachment from the First Division of this corps, now doing duty on that line. They will take all camp and garrison equipage, rations, &c., with them, and will be reported on the brigade reports as on detached service.

By order of Brigadier-General Foster:

T. ELLERY LORD,
Capt., Third New York Vols., and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 2D DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

The colonel commanding brigade is authorized by the major-general commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina to say that the man who captures or shoots any man beyond the vedette line attempting to desert to the enemy will be given a furlough of twenty days and money enough sufficient to defray his expenses to his home.

By order of Col. L. Bell, commanding brigade:

H. S. SANFORD,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
November 23, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL:

The commanding general directs that on to-morrow, being Thanksgiving day, the troops be relieved from all duty not essential to the safety of the command.

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
November 23, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL:

The hour for the troops to form in the morning is changed from 3.30 to 5.30 a. m.

By order of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

Colonel Martindale, commanding my Provisional Brigade, reports that what appears to be rebel signal lights can be seen a little north of east from his headquarters near the junction of the Deep Bottom and Kingsland roads.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. PROV. DIV., ARMY OF THE JAMES,
No. 29. } *In the Field, Va., November 23, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

IV. The Two hundred and seventh and Two hundred and ninth Regiments Pennsylvania Volunteers having been relieved from duty with this command, by virtue of paragraph I, Special Orders, No. 365, headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, all officers

and enlisted men belonging to these regiments on detached duty in this command are hereby relieved and will report to their regimental commanders without delay.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brigadier-General Graham:

R. DALE BENSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 24, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The following dispatch just received from General Meade:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 24, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

Nothing new or important this morning except the arrival of deserters, who report the occupation of Macon by Sherman.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 24, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. ULYSSES S. GRANT,
Commander of the Armies of the United States,
Near Petersburg, Va.:

GENERAL: I inclose, for your information and for any opinion which you may think proper to express, a translation of the instructions which Mr. Geoffrey, the chargé d'affaires of France, proposes to give to Captain Marivault, of the French Navy, and Mr. Paul, the French consul at Richmond, in regard to the removal within our lines of the subjects of France now within the lines of the insurgents.

I have the honor to be, your very obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

LEGATION OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, November 23, 1864.

SIR: I have the honor to send you a copy of the last communication exchanged with the Department of State upon the matter of the French subjects who desire to leave the South. You will therein see that, while regretting that the Government does not instruct him to transport them himself and by American vessels, Lieutenant-General Grant declares that he is ready to carry our plan into execution. Upon reading that remark I went to see Mr. Seward, and have explained to him that if I thought the transportation of our French subjects could have been executed by vessels of the American Government I should have

willingly consented thereto, and that I did not insist upon the sending up the James River one of His Majesty's vessels, but because I foresaw in the contrary case insurmountable objections on the part of the authorities who govern at Richmond. It is therefore definitely agreed that the Adonis and the Tisiphone will be employed in that operation, which will be done under the conditions pointed out in my note of the 31st of October. In my note of this day's date I invite Captain Marivault to commence it as soon as possible. You will, then, please go up on the Adonis as far as Aiken's Landing, and thence go to Richmond, where I desire you to use the utmost diligence and to press on your arrangements before some military movement shall again interpose. When all those of our Frenchmen who shall present themselves shall have embarked, if there be a means of causing a few Italian subjects to avail themselves of the same favor, who will have been recommended to you by the Italian consul at Richmond, I authorize you to grant it to them. This matter is understood with the Secretary of State. With regard to your new chancellor, he will receive the necessary pass to rejoin you. Leave him the order at New York, to come here for it so soon as he arrives.

Accept, &c.,

L. DE GEOFFREY.

P. S.—You will be pleased to communicate the papers herewith to Mr. De Marivault.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

LEGATION OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, November 23, 1864.

CAPTAIN OF FRIGATE, DE MARIVAULT,
Comdg. His Majesty's Steam Corvette Tisiphone, New York:

Mr. COMMANDANT: I have the honor to invite you to set out for James River with the two vessels destined by Admiral Bosse for transporting such of our French subjects as may desire to leave the Confederate territory. As you will see by the correspondence, of which I send a copy to Mr. Paul, and which I beg him to communicate to you, the affair is definitely settled in what concerns the Government at Washington, and the details of its execution remain intrusted to your zeal and prudence, already tested last spring on a like occasion. I will beg you in the instructions, which you will give to the commander of the Adonis, to infuse the like sentiments of circumspection as dictated the dispatch which I had the honor to address to you on the 6th of April last. Now, as then, Mr. Paul will have an understanding with you on all the points. Besides daily relations which you will maintain with the Federal commanders with whom you will be in contact on every incident of importance, it is to Lieutenant-General Grant directly that you must address yourself. The lieutenant-general notes in his letter that an American officer will be put on board the Adonis. This is for the purpose of serving, should the case happen, as intermediary between the commandant and the officers of chiefs of corps he will meet with, and to aid and guide him through the fleet which he will have to pass by.

Accept, &c.,

L. DE GEOFFREY.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 24, 1864.

HON. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

SIR: On the 19th of September last I had the honor to address a letter to you presenting the names of certain officers of this army deemed by me as pre-eminently worthy of brevet appointments for their services in the field, and in that communication I stated that the list then forwarded was reduced to the lowest practicable limit, and that it was my purpose on another occasion to submit to you a more general list of recommendations. I, therefore, now transmit such a list for your consideration, comprising the recommendations that have been sent to me by corps and other commanders, in compliance with my instructions requiring them to present the names of such officers of their respective commands as had, in their judgment, won by their services the reward of a brevet appointment, and the names of certain officers on duty at my headquarters. Where officers have been recommended for brevets for services rendered prior to August 1, 1864, I would respectfully advise that if the appointments asked for be conferred they be given the date of August 1.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 24, 1864.

HON. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to recommend that the following-named officers, serving on my staff or at my headquarters, be rewarded with brevet appointments one grade above that they now hold for faithful and meritorious services in the field, the appointments to date from August 1, 1864: Majs. James C. Biddle, additional aide-de-camp; William Riddle, aide-de-camp; Capts. William Jay, additional aide-de-camp; Francis M. Bache, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, acting aide-de-camp; Addison G. Mason, aide-de-camp; George Meade, aide-de-camp; J. Coulter Bates, Eleventh U. S. Infantry, acting aide-de-camp; William W. Sanders, Sixth U. S. Infantry, commissary of musters and acting aide-de-camp; Frederick Rosencrantz, assistant adjutant-general and acting aide-de-camp; Lieut. H. H. Humphreys, One hundred and twelfth Pennsylvania Volunteers, aide-de-camp to Major-General Humphreys, chief of staff; Maj. Simon F. Barstow, assistant adjutant-general; Capt. Charles E. Pease, assistant adjutant-general; First Lieut. Charles W. Woolsey, One hundred and sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, aide-de-camp to Brigadier-General Williams, assistant adjutant-general; Col. Edmund Schriver, inspector-general; Lieut. Col. Thomas Wilson, chief commissary; Surg. Thomas A. McParlin, medical director; Maj. N. Michler, U. S. Engineers; Capt. W. H. Paine, additional aide-de-camp and acting engineer; First Lieut. John R. Edie, chief of ordnance; Maj. B. F. Fisher, chief signal officer; Capt. John R. Coxe, commissary of subsistence.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 24, 1864—1 p. m. (Sent 1.25 p. m.)

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

I have just examined an intelligent non-commissioned officer from Harris' brigade, Mahone's division, who came into our lines this morning. He says he was in Petersburg yesterday, and in Bushrod Johnson's division, and that he heard nothing of a brigade having been moved or sent away, and he feels sure no troops have been detached from Lee's army. Other deserters from Johnson's division, since the one who reported the fact, do not confirm the withdrawal of any brigade or regiments of that division. The non-commissioned officer says a slip was issued from the Petersburg paper yesterday, announcing the occupation, without resistance, of Macon by General Sherman.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Rebel deserters from the following commands have arrived at these headquarters to-day, viz: Two from Harris' brigade; two from Finegan's brigade; two from Wright's old, now General Sorrel's. They report no recent changes in enemy's position in our front, except that Scales' brigade is lying in front of lead-works and joining Wallace's brigade on the right. Two of these men report that they saw men from Wallace's brigade on picket yesterday. Thomas' brigade is lying between the Appomattox and James, near Swift run. Two of the most intelligent of these men (and they were well informed with regard to enemy's troops) seem quite confident in the belief that no troops have been sent South from General Lee's army. One of them has friends in Wallace's brigade, and on Tuesday last he borrowed money from an officer of that brigade whom he met at Petersburg. One of them lately saw Scales' brigade in the position herein stated, and he states that there are men in Wright's brigade who have friends in Thomas' brigade, and that they visited them on the north side not long since. It was reported in the Confederate lines yesterday that a dispatch from General Sherman to the Secretary of War had lately been intercepted. It was to the following effect: Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina are in my hands, at my mercy, or something to that effect. It was reported yesterday that General Sherman was within three miles of Macon, and that the city was not defended and would surrender without resistance. General Wright has been promoted to be major-general, and is commanding a division in Hood's army.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

P. S.—Seven men just received from Wise's brigade. They know nothing of Wallace's brigade, but say that two or three days ago it was on their right. They do not know of its moving, but last night their brigade (Wise's) was moved about 150 yards to the right.

Respectfully,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Beside the rebel deserters already reported six have been received from Finegan, two from Ransom, and one from Lane, making in all twenty-two received at this office to-day. They report nothing additional to what was already reported. Colonel Sharpe writes me that yesterday's Richmond papers report General Sherman to be operating in all the country on the railroads between Atlanta and Augusta and Atlanta and Macon, and on the Georgia Central Railroad. He has taken Milledgeville, and it is supposed Macon also. A body of his cavalry was within a short distance of Augusta. Wheeler fought him on Sunday last and was beaten.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Stations report all quiet. Jansen reports one train of cars as having passed toward our left on railroad across the Appomattox. As some have expressed doubts about a road being there, I will try and ascertain positively to-morrow.

I. THICKSTUN,
Acting Signal Officer.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD, *November 24, 1864.*

Capt. C. L. DAVIS:

At 2.30 p. m. the enemy took one piece of artillery from fort near Butterworth's house and moved it west on Boydton plank road. Small working parties seen at work strengthening old works east and west of lead-works. All quiet in their camps.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: The following messages were intercepted at Holman's station:

2.10.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this a. m. One steamer just came up the river. One gun-boat above and one below Port Walthall.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

3 P. M.

Major P.:

I report there have passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, one train of twelve box-cars, tops loaded with troops, eighteen wagons, and twenty-five beeves, and toward City Point twenty-seven wagons. A train of nine coaches, the tops loaded with troops, just passed going toward enemy's left.

W.,
Sergeant, at D

4 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Steamer just came up the river and stopped off Strahan's lower landing. No troops in sight.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

4.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

I noticed some of the tents in rear of Batteries A and B. Batteries E and F have been strengthened during the night. The enemy advances their picket-line in our immediate front at 1 p. m.

(Same to A. B.)

Darkness prevented getting the remainder of the message.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 24, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The Church road station reports:

The enemy is busily engaged in building winter quarters along this whole front. At 12 m. two pieces of artillery and one caisson passed large fort near Weldon railroad, moving eastward. At 2 p. m. two pieces of artillery and one caisson passed same point, going to the west. At 2.30 p. m. the enemy took one piece of artillery from the fort near Butterworth's house and moved it westward on Boydton plank road. All quiet at other points.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes to report during the last twenty-four hours.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864. (Received 10.15 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: I send up nine deserters who came into my lines last night. They are from Wise's and Ransom's brigades, of Johnson's division. They have no news.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: On November 2 I addressed a letter to Major-General Meade, commanding Army of the Potomac, in reference to articles that appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer and New York Times, in relation to the fight at the Boydton plank road, inclosing at the same time a copy of the article in the Inquirer and promising to send a copy of the New York Times. I have not been able to secure a copy of the latter paper containing the article referred to since that time; neither have I heard of the action of the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac in reference to the article in the Inquirer. The object of this note is to ask what action has been taken in reference to the article in the Inquirer, as up to this time the receipt of my letter above referred to has not been acknowledged.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

General Mott and General Miles desire permission to visit Dutch Gap to-morrow, during daylight.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 24, 1864—8.20 p. m.

General W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

I will send in a short time an answer to your dispatch asking that Generals Miles and Mott be authorized to visit Dutch Gap to-morrow. I have retained your dispatch to lay it before General Meade with other papers this evening, as it did not seem to require an immediate answer.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 24, 1864—9.20 p. m.

General W. S. HANCOCK,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general has no objection to your authorizing Generals Miles and Mott to visit Dutch Gap to-morrow other than that arising from allowing two division commanders to be absent at the same time. If, however, you consider that both officers can be absent without prejudice to the safety of your line you can give them the necessary permits.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of my tour of duty as corps officer of the day from the 24th to the 25th instant:

I visited the greater portion of the line from Battery 5 to the left. There was some firing during the day from Battery 9 to Fort Morton. No firing from Fort Rice to the left. The firing is kept up very generally along the whole line during the night time. I found that two or three posts in front of Fort Stedman had been abandoned on account of the storm washing away the parapets. I instructed the division officer of the day of the Second Division to have the work repaired last evening. I would also recommend that plank be furnished for platforms for the guns in Fort Stedman. It was almost impossible to work the guns during the last storm. The orderly from the right of the line reports to me this morning that nothing unusual transpired on that portion of the line yesterday or last night.

Respectfully submitted.

B. R. PIERCE,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864. (Received 9.20 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along my front during the past twenty-four hours. Four deserters received, viz: Two from Eleventh Florida, one from Nineteenth Mississippi, one from Thirty-third North Carolina.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Three deserters from enemy just received and forwarded to your headquarters. Their names are—First Sergt. John L. Smith, Second Georgia Battalion; Private W. Davis, Forty-eighth Georgia; Private John L. Carlisle, Nineteenth Mississippi. These men report the occupation of Macon by General Sherman.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 24, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

In the absence of Lieutenant-General Grant I have to report to you that the battery and cavalry horses are suffering for hay, and the Gov-

ernment is losing large sums in the depreciation of these horses from this cause. For this there can be no excuse, as there is hay enough in the country. It can only arise from inexcusable remissness somewhere, which need but be brought to your attention to be remedied.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *November 24, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The steamer Atlantic, Captain Grey, the first transport from Savannah detailed to exchange the 10,000 prisoners, arrived here this a. m., with 664 exchanged, having lost by death on the passage ten of their number. Captain Grey reports that the exchange is being proceeded with as well as may be expected. He also reports a great consternation among the inhabitants in consequence of the near approach of Sherman's forces. It is also reported that Macon is burned, and that the Legislature at Milledgeville, Ga., had left with all of the archives of the State; that Sherman was within thirty-five miles of Savannah. I forward herewith some important extracts from Savannah Republican of 21st instant:

PROCLAMATION.

NOVEMBER 18.

To the People of Georgia:

Arise for the defense of your native soil! Rally round your patriotic Governor and gallant soldiers! Obstruct and destroy all roads in Sherman's front, flank, and rear, and his army will soon starve in your midst! Be confident and resolute! Trust in an overruling Providence, and success will crown your efforts. I hasten to join you in defense of your homes and firesides.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

From the Savannah Republican, 21st:

MACON WILL BE DEFENDED TO THE LAST.

MACON, GA., *November 18, 1864.*

The military authorities are active and vigilant, and every man is under arms and confidence is being restored. The enemy are believed to be on our right, distant about thirty miles. The city will be defended to the last.

G. D. S[HELDON].

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 30. } HDQRS. PROV. DIV., ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 24, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. The One hundred and fifteenth Regiment New York Volunteers, having reported for duty with this command, is hereby assigned to duty with the Provisional Brigade. The commanding officer of that regiment will report in person to Col. J. H. Potter, commanding brigade.

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By command of Brigadier-General Graham:

R. DALE BENSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL BRIGADE, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Defenses of Bermuda Hundred, Va., November 24, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER DETACHMENT TENTH ARMY CORPS:

SIR: Upon being relieved by the commanding officer of the One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers you will proceed with your command at once and report to the commanding officer of the First Division, Tenth Army Corps. Should that portion of your command now on picket not be relieved in season to move with you, you will leave instructions for the senior officer to follow you with it and report the men to their respective organizations. Inclosed please find a copy of the order from division headquarters relieving your command.

By command of Col. J. H. Potter:

ABEL E. LEAVENWORTH,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, *November 25, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

Major-General Butler telegraphs that the battery and cavalry horses in his command are suffering for hay, and that the Government is losing large sums in the depreciation of horses from this cause. The Secretary of War desires that you should cause immediate inspection to be made of the quartermaster's department, in order to ascertain the extent of the evil complained of and who is responsible for its existence, and that you report the result to this Department.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 136. } *City Point, Va., November 25, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. The following permanent transfer of troops is hereby ordered: The U. S. Colored Troops of the Ninth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, to the Army of the James, and Colonel Potter's brigade of the Army of the James to the Army of the Potomac. The necessary orders for immediate carrying out of this order will be made by the respective commanders of said armies.

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By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. S. PARKER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Military Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 25, 1864—9 a. m. (Sent 9.15 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing of importance to communicate. If you are going to be at home this morning I propose to visit City Point.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *November 25, 1864*

Major-General MEADE:

I shall be at home all day.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 25, 1864—2.15 p. m.*
(Received 2.25 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Finding you are not at my headquarters yet, 2 p. m., I suppose you are not coming down to-day. To-morrow I shall go up to the James River and out to General Butler's headquarters, and if you feel like it would be glad to have your company.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 25, 1864. (Sent 2.45 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your telegram of 2.15 p. m. is received. General Meade is now on his way to your headquarters.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *November 25, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. R. INGALLS,
Chief Quartermaster, City Point, Va.:

Major-General Butler reports that the battery and cavalry horses of his army are suffering for hay, and that the Government is losing large sums in the depreciation of these horses from this cause. The Secretary of War directs that you immediately report who is responsible for this state of things.

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 25, 1864.*
(Received 9.40 p. m.)

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War:

I have frequently called on the Quartermaster-General personally, and have communicated with him by mail and telegraph, on the subject of forage, and have expressed my fears that there would be suffering for want of hay. He receives my report of forage daily, showing what is on hand, the number of animals, and so far as I am informed he has given all necessary orders. I have recently asked him to force the shipments to be increased. The quartermasters here understand that we are dependent on Colonel Brown and General

Meigs. General Butler could have known as much had he inquired at these headquarters instead of communicating direct with the Secretary. Unless very active measures are taken we must suffer for hay. We must have it during cold weather.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Five rebel deserters from the following commands have been received at this office to-day, viz: Two from MacRae's (Kirkland's old) brigade; three from Wise's brigade. They report no late changes within the enemy's lines, and know nothing of the departure or arrival of troops. One of these men reports that he saw men from Wallace's brigade yesterday, and that they are still lying in their old position on the right of Wise's brigade.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 25, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Jordan reports engine in from Weldon railroad. Suppose on same road as reported by Jansen.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

HQDRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 25, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the signal station at the Avery house states that a column of the enemy's infantry, numbering 800, have just left camp to left of lead-works and moved toward our right. The following intercepted messages were received up to last night:*

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 319. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 25, 1864.

* * * * * * *

7. The Two hundred and seventh and Two hundred and ninth Regiments Pennsylvania Volunteers having, pursuant to instructions from

* See Thickstun to Fisher, 24th, p. 697.

the lieutenant-general commanding, reported for duty with this army, are assigned to the Ninth Army Corps, and will proceed to report to Major-General Parke, commanding.

* * * * * * *

12. Leave of absence for twenty days is granted to Maj. Gen. W. S. Hancock, U. S. Volunteers, and his aides are authorized to accompany him.

13. Maj. Gen. W. S. Hancock having been granted a leave of absence for twenty days, Maj. Gen. A. A. Humphreys, U. S. Volunteers, is assigned temporarily to the command of the Second Army Corps.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No change during the last twenty-four hours.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 25, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HANCOCK:

Your orders will be issued in a few days. In the meantime, if you wish it, you can go on leave.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 25, 1864. (Received 6.55 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

GENERAL: Your dispatch received. I will avail myself of the leave, and should like to take my aides with me, Capt. I. B. Parker and Capt. W. D. Miller. Major Mitchell has a leave of absence. Please inform me whether I shall transfer the command to General Gibbon or to whom, as I should like to issue an order before I leave.

Your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 25, 1864—7 p. m. (Sent 7.35 p. m.)

Major-General HANCOCK:

An order will be issued giving a leave to yourself and aides, in which order Major-General Humphreys will be assigned to the command of your corps.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK, *Commanding Second Army Corps:*

GENERAL: Your letter of the 2d instant, calling attention to certain articles in the Philadelphia Inquirer and New York Times of the issue of October 31st ultimo, in your judgment misrepresenting the operations of your command during the recent movement towards the South Side Railroad, was duly received and laid before the commanding general, and a reply has been delayed in the expectation that you would send in a copy of the Times of the date in question, which you stated you would forward as soon as it could be procured. Your letter of the 24th instant, referring to your communication of the 2d instant, has also been received. I am now instructed by the commanding general to say that if you will cause charges and specifications to be preferred against the correspondent of the Inquirer, his trial upon the same by a military commission will be ordered, it being considered that newspaper correspondents with the army are subject to military law, and that they can therefore properly be brought before such tribunals for any incorrect statements they may publish. The commanding general will hereafter make a similar disposition of any complaint of misrepresentation on the part of newspaper correspondents which may be brought to his notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 25, 1864—8.10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I would like to go to City Point to-morrow and visit the lines on the other side of the river, with the concurrence of the major-general commanding, to be absent all day.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN, *Commanding Fifth Corps:*

You are authorized by the commanding general to visit City Point and the lines on the other side of the river to-morrow as requested. A car will be on the mail-train for General Meade, who goes to the Point in the morning.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 25, 1864—8.50 p. m. (Sent 9.10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. J. G. PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

The commanding general directs that you order the colored division of the Ninth Corps to proceed to Bermuda Hundred to-morrow morning

and report for further instructions to Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner, chief of staff, headquarters Major-General Butler. The regiments will take with them their regimental transportation. It is expected that Potter's brigade will report to you with as little delay as practicable, after being relieved by the colored troops.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 25, 1864.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD FERRERO,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: In accordance with orders received from headquarters Army of the Potomac the general commanding directs that you move with the colored division to-morrow morning to Bermuda Hundred, and report for further instructions to Brig. Gen. J. W. Turner, chief of staff, headquarters Major-General Butler. The regiments will take with them their regimental transportation. He requests that you order the two white regiments that have recently reported to take position near Fort Cummings, and that your pickets be relieved by them. He desires also that you leave a small garrison in each of the forts in your front and a small guard over regimental and headquarters camps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. LYDIG,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 25, 1864.

Col. H. G. THOMAS,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: You will move with your command promptly at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning on the road to Bermuda Hundred, crossing the Appomattox on the pontoon bridge near Point of Rocks, without waiting for further orders from these headquarters. You will take your transportation with you, which will follow in the rear of your brigade. You will take proper steps to prevent straggling. A staff officer will overtake you before reaching Bermuda Hundred with further instructions. Your pickets will be relieved at 5.30 in the morning and accompany their respective commands. It is expressly desired that the different camps and headquarters be left in as undisturbed a condition as possible. Your brigade will take the lead.

By order of Brigadier-General Ferrero:

GEO. A. HICKS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 25, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: If they can be possibly spared from Hilton Head, where, at present, it would seem there is no use for them, I would respectfully request that the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Colored Regiment be sent to

me. I have no Massachusetts colored regiments in my command, or any regiment the larger portion of which is composed of free negroes instructed in reading and writing. There are many of the private soldiers in that regiment who could be of use in my new colored corps, to be detailed as clerks, company and other. I make this request, as I am endeavoring to have no white men in the corps except the commissioned officers.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 25, 1864—12 p. m. (Received 2.15 p. m.)

Capt. G. V. FOX,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy:

Assistant Secretary Dana informs me that the needed material will be sent at once to Fortress Monroe—100. Please see him and add 50.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 25, 1864—12 m. (Received 2.15 p. m.)

Brigadier-General DYER:

Mr. Dana telegraphs the material for the explosive experiment, a part of which has been ordered, will be sent. Please inform me when it will be at Fortress Monroe, and how much?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 25, 1864—8.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Major-General Butler directs me to say that he is ready to carry out Special Orders, No. 136, from headquarters Armies of the United States. Colonel Potter's brigade is on the Bermuda line, and it being the intention to replace it by the colored troops coming from the Ninth Army Corps, it is necessary to arrange the exchange so that this line may not be weakened. I will relieve Potter's regiments as fast as the colored troops arrive, or a regiment can be marched from the Bermuda line every morning in exchange for a regiment of colored troops from your command, starting so as to arrive before dark, till the entire exchange is completed, as best suits your position of affairs.

Respectfully,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 25, 1864. (Sent 9.15 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff, headquarters Major-General Butler:

Your dispatch of 8.15 p. m. received. I have issued orders for the division of colored troops to move to-morrow morning and report to you at Bermuda Hundred. Such arrangements as you may think it advisable to make for relieving and sending here Potter's brigade will be satisfactory to me. One of the regiments of colored troops belonging to the division was sent to City Point yesterday in compliance with instructions received from headquarters Armies of the United States.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *November 26, 1864.* (Received 3 p. m.)

Major-General MEIGS,
Quartermaster-General:

Only some 150 tons of hay have been received here since the 19th. We have none on hand, and General Butler and others are complaining. I hope you will repeat your order to the forage officer, and compel an increased shipment. I have very frequently reported that this subject is of most pressing importance.

R. INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. DELAFIELD,
Chief Engineer U. S. Army:

In answer to your circular letter of the 21st instant, asking for the names of officers of the Corps of Engineers, now or heretofore connected with this army, who have been mentioned for distinguished and meritorious services, I have the honor to state that I am informed that Major-General McClellan, while commanding the army, forwarded to the War Department a list of recommendations for brevets which included the names of several officers of engineers, but I am unable to say what names were on the list. I presume, however, that the list is on file in the Adjutant-General's Office. So far as I am aware, Major-Generals Burnside and Hooker have made no detailed reports of the operations of the army during the time that they commanded it, or presented any recommendations for brevets. In a letter of recommendation for brevet appointments forwarded by me to the War Department, September 19, 1864, I asked that the brevet of colonel might be conferred upon Maj. J. C. Duane for meritorious and faithful services in the field in the campaign from the Rapidan to the James, and particularly for distinguished professional services in the operations before Petersburg, the brevet to date August 1, 1864. In a list of recommendations for brevets, forwarded by me on the 24th instant, the names of the following-mentioned officers of engineers were included, viz: Maj. N. Michler, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet for faithful and meritorious services in the field, to date August 1, 1864; Maj. George H. Mendell (x), to be lieu-

tenant-colonel by brevet for gallant and meritorious services during the campaign; Capts. Charles N. Turnbull (x), Franklin Harwood (x), George L. Gillespie (x), William H. H. Benyaurd (x), Charles W. Howell (x), to be majors by brevet for gallant and meritorious services during the campaign. The names marked (x) were in a list presented by Major Duane, chief engineer of this army.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
City Point, November 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: We have news from Richmond by our special agent, who left there late yesterday afternoon. The attention of our friends in Richmond has been drawn to information most necessary at this time, and they give us strong assurances that up to 3 o'clock of the afternoon of the 24th instant it was quite certain that not a man or a gun had been sent south from General Lee's army. No changes have occurred on the north side of the James, except that Kershaw's division, which is lying in reserve, has been moved down nearer the lines in front of General Butler. Kershaw's wagon train came in from the Valley only yesterday, passed through the city, and is parked at little church, about four miles from the Williamsburg stage road. There were about a hundred wagons in all. Nothing further has come from Early, nor can our friends find any indications of the prospective withdrawal of any more troops from the Valley. All thoughts are directed to the situation in Georgia. The Government, from time to time, claims to have dispatches of a favorable kind, but this is not believed by the community; and our friends send us word, as the best indication of the want of confidence felt, that gold has been steadily rising since Sherman commenced his march, and has now touched the mark of 4,000 per cent. It is, however, quite certain that the rapid publication by the Northern papers of the news from Sherman contained in the Richmond papers has put them on their guard against furnishing us the information with such rapidity. The word is sent to us from a very intelligent source that the weakest point of the enemy's line in front of General Butler is between the Nine-Mile road and the Mechanicsville pike.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: Rebel deserters have been received at this office to-day from the following commands: Four from Fry's brigade, Mahone's division; two from Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division; one from

Sanders' old brigade, Mahone's division; one from Wallace's brigade, Bushrod Johnson's division; one from Ransom's brigade, Bushrod Johnson's division; total, nine. They report no recent changes in enemy's position. The vague report received several days ago that Wallace's brigade had gone south was undoubtedly erroneous from fact of our receiving a man from that command to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

JERUSALEM PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
November 26, 1864—5 p. m.

Major FISHER:

At 4.20 p. m. infantry appeared moving to the right on road west of railroad; were four minutes in passing; could not see the left afterward.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 26, 1864.

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Holman reports about fifty men at work throwing dirt to our left of Chesterfield battery. At 2 p. m about 150 men with a battle-flag fell into line at the camp rear of the Covington house and moved off to their right. I send by orderly intercepted messages.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 26, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The following messages were intercepted at Holman's station to-day:

12 M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

No change in enemy's camps. Two transports off Strahan's lower landing. Gunboat in same position.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

1 P. M.

Major P.:

One large brigade of infantry, followed by thirty-nine wagons and eleven ambulances, just passed rear of Battery 5 going toward City Point.

R.,
Sergeant.

4 P. M.

Major P.:

There has passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, a train of eleven flats with troops on four of them, and forty wagons.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

STEUART'S FRONT—4.30 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

The enemy still at work on works between Batteries B and C. Wagons passing backward and forward between camps during the day. No unusual display of troops in open space. On account of fog I could make no observations on north side. Dredging-machine still at work a short distance from the canal.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

ISRAEL THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 320. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *November 26, 1864.*

1. The consolidation for the present into the Third Division of the Fifth Corps of the troops comprising the old First Corps, renders necessary a modification of so much of General Orders, No. 10, of March 24, 1864, from these headquarters,* as directed that, in the transfer of the First to the Fifth Corps, the First Corps should retain its badges and distinctive marks, and the badge for the troops of the old First Corps will be the badge provided by existing orders for the Third Division, Fifth Corps, surrounded by a circular belt of the same color as the badge, to indicate that the troops belonged to the First Corps. The division flag will be the flag now authorized, with a circular belt surrounding the corps insignia and of the same color.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 26, 1864. (Received 9.24 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes have occurred during the last twenty-four hours.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General.

FORT MONROE, *November 26, 1864—10.48 p. m.*

General RAWLINS:

I would suggest that it might be better to order Colonel Morgan to report to me in Washington at once, without waiting for my order, instead of extending his leave. During the few days before I enter on my duties he will assist me in getting up my back reports. Colonel Morgan's address is Fort Monroe, care of Colonel Small.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

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* See Vol. XXXIII, p. 722.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have received your communication of the 25th in reply to my letter of the 2d instant, in reference to the article in the Philadelphia Inquirer of October 31, which I had charged as having misrepresented the operations of my command on the 27th of October last. It was asserted, among other erroneous statements, that the Second Corps "went too far." This statement the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac knew to be untrue, and in consequence I called upon him to correct the injustice done to the Second Corps. I am now informed that if I prefer charges and specifications against the author of the article in question that he will be tried before a military court. I am about leaving the Army of the Potomac, and I do not know that an opportunity will be had to prepare charges against the author of the article referred to, nor do I think it necessary to do so now. In my letter of the 2d instant I merely claimed the benefit of the precedent established by the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac on a similar occasion, in reference to a slander circulated against himself, who punished the offender without trial. If the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac cannot remedy the injustice done to my command in connection with persons over whom he has control and I have not, I do not consider it necessary, at this late date, to take other action than I have already done.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General, Commanding Second Corps.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 44. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, November 26, 1864.

SOLDIERS OF THE SECOND CORPS:

Being about to avail myself of a brief leave of absence, previous to entering upon another field of duty, in accordance with instructions I transfer the command of this corps to Maj. Gen. A. A. Humphreys, U. S. Volunteers. I desire at parting with you to express the regret I feel at the necessity which calls for our separation. Intimately associated with you in the dangers, privations, and glory which have fallen to your lot during the memorable campaigns of the past two years, I now leave you with the warmest feelings of affection and esteem. Since I have had the honor to serve with you, you have won the right to place upon your banners the historic names of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Wilderness, Po, Spotsylvania, North Anna, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Reams' Station, Boydton Road, and many other contests. The gallant bearing of the intrepid officers and men of the Second Corps on the bloodiest fields of the war, the dauntless valor displayed by them in many brilliant assaults on the enemy's strongest positions, the great number of guns, colors, prisoners, and other trophies of war captured by them in many desperate combats, their unswerving devotion to duty and heroic constancy under all the dangers and hardships which such campaigns entail, have won for them an imperishable renown and the grateful admiration of their countrymen. The story of the Second Corps will live in history, and to its officers

and men will be ascribed the honor of having served their country with unsurpassed fidelity and courage. Conscious that whatever military honor has fallen to me during my association with the Second Corps has been won by the gallantry of the officers and soldiers I have commanded, I feel that in parting from them I am severing the strongest ties of my military life. The distinguished officer who succeeds me is entitled to your entire confidence. His record assures you that in the hour of battle he will lead you to victory.

WINF'D S. HANCOCK,
Major-General of Volunteers.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 45. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, November 26, 1864.

In compliance with and by authority of orders from the headquarters of this army, I assume command of the Second Corps. It is natural that I should feel some diffidence in succeeding to the command of so distinguished a soldier as Major-General Hancock. I can only promise you that I shall try to do my duty and preserve your reputation unsullied, relying upon you to sustain me by that skill and courage which you have so conspicuously displayed on so many fields.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 26, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the enemy still keep a large working party busily engaged to the right of the mine. They can be seen carrying lumber and bags filled with something. As they have been to work about the same place nearly two weeks, I am under the impression that it must be something more than ordinary. Another party was also observed to the left of the crater yesterday. Forty-four rounds of ammunition expended by Cooper's mortars with good effect.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The assignment of Major-General Humphreys to the command of the Second Corps temporarily, during the absence on leave of the permanent commander, I regard as a direct reflection upon me. I have the honor to request that I may be at once relieved from my present command.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 26, 1864—10 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front yesterday or during the night. All quiet.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 26, 1864—12 m.

Major-General WARREN:

I should like to see you at these headquarters at your convenience.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 26, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Chief of Staff:

Nothing unusual transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours. The Third Division, Ferrero's, left this morning with orders to report to Major-General Butler. Two regiments, the Two hundred and seventh and Two hundred and ninth Pennsylvania, arrived yesterday. Four deserters came in last night from Archer's brigade. Have no news.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 26, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Rear-Admiral PORTER,
Fort Monroe:

Mr. Birney is to show me to-night a little exhibition of his fire apparatus. Please come up this pleasant day, and I will go down with you in the morning to meet the Assistant Secretary. I mean to have General Grant here. Come up to the landing on the north side of James, just below upper pontoon bridge.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FLAG-SHIP MALVERN,
November 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Headquarters:

I will start up to see you immediately.

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS,
Before Richmond, Va., October 26, 1864.

BRIGADE COMMANDERS FIRST DIVISION, TENTH ARMY CORPS:

COLONEL: The troops of this command will move from camp at 4.30 o'clock promptly to-morrow a. m., without further orders, in the following order: First Brigade, Third Brigade, Second Brigade. The route will be the same as that taken on the reconnaissance of the 13th instant. All wagons and officers' baggage will be sent to the rear, crossing the James at Deep Bottom, as indicated in a previous communication from these headquarters.

By order of Brigadier-General Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 22. HDQRS. THIRD DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., November 26, 1864.

First Lieut. James B. West, aide-de-camp, is hereby announced as acting assistant adjutant-general of this command, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly. All official communications from officers of this command intended for these headquarters will be addressed to Lieutenant West.

By command of Brig. Gen. William Birney:

JAMES B. WEST,
First Lieut., Aide-de-Camp, and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S, *November 26, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Captain Low, quartermaster of the Naval Brigade, has arrived from Norfolk with the information that the gun-boat Shrapnel sunk in the canal two days ago, while on her way to Norfolk for repairs. As the accident has arisen through the unauthorized interference of General Shepley with the boat, which has extended to giving leaves of absence to engineers and taking her captain and crew from her without consultation with me, I request you will telegraph General Shepley to discontinue his interference, and I will send Captain Low immediately to Fort Monroe to make arrangements with Colonel Webster for raising the vessel and saving the property.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 26, 1864.

Brigadier-General GRAHAM:

A division of colored troops from the Ninth Corps have been ordered to Bermuda to-day in exchange for your Pennsylvania troops. Halt them when they cross the pontoon bridge and assume command of them, and place them on your line, relieving the Two hundredth, Two hundred and fifth, Two hundred and eighth, and the Two hundred and eleventh Pennsylvania, which you will order to report to General Meade, commanding Army of the Potomac.

By order of General Butler:

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 33.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION,
DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, Va., November 26, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. The detachment of the Ninth Regiment Vermont Volunteer Infantry is hereby relieved from duty with this command and will report to the commanding officer of that regiment, in the Eighteenth Army Corps, without delay.

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By command of Brigadier-General Graham:

R. DALE BENSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 32.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION,
DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, Va., November 26, 1864.

* * * * * * *

III. The Two hundredth, Two hundred and fifth, Two hundred and eighth, and Two hundred and eleventh Regiments Pennsylvania Volunteers, having been relieved from duty in this command, all officers and enlisted men belonging to those organizations on detached duty within this command are hereby relieved and will rejoin their respective commands as soon as practicable.

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By command of Brigadier-General Graham:

R. DALE BENSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED,
ARMY OF THE JAMES, DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C.,
In the Field, Va., November 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD FERRERO,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: A large portion of the command of Colonel Potter occupying this line having been relieved and ordered to march at 8 a. m. to-morrow, the 27th instant, you will move your command into position to occupy the lines at 7 a. m. to-morrow in the following order: One brigade (Colonel Ward's) to occupy the right, one brigade to occupy the center, and one brigade to occupy the left. The brigades will be encamped under your direction and as the nature of the ground will permit.

By command of Brigadier-General Graham:

R. DALE BENSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. PROVISIONAL DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
In the Field, November 26, 1864.

Col. J. H. POTTER,
Commanding Provisional Brigade.

COLONEL: You will direct the commanding officers of the Two hundredth, Two hundred and fifth, Two hundred and eighth, Two hundred

and eleventh Pennsylvania Volunteers to hold their commands in readiness to move at a moment's notice. When these regiments are ordered to move they will take their transportation, camp and garrison equipage, and arrangements to enable them to comply with this order will be made at once. All details from these organizations will be relieved and ordered to rejoin their commands without delay. Stringent orders will also be issued that the camps of these regiments shall remain unmolested, in order that they may be occupied by other troops. The details for picket duty required from your command this p. m. will be made as far as practicable from other organizations than those mentioned.

By command of Brigadier-General Graham:

R. DALE BENSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 27, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Twelve rebel deserters from the following commands have been received at this office to-day: One from Wise's brigade, two from Gracie's brigade, three from Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division; one from Davis' brigade, Heth's division; three from Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Washington Artillery. They report no recent changes in enemy's position, but there is a camp rumor in circulation that Bushrod Johnson's division is to be sent south. No apparent preparations, however, are being made for a move, and there are no indications to confirm the rumor. Contrabands from Sussex County, and those who have lately been working on Weldon railroad, report that the enemy are removing the rails from the road north of Stony Creek Station. These rails are to be used in constructing a branch road from Stony Creek, running through Dinwiddie Court-House to the South Side road. The road has been surveyed, but no grading has been done. These rails are being collected at Stony Creek, and the general supposition is that the branch road will soon be in running order, as everything is in readiness to commence the work. This is also confirmed by a deserter who left Stony Creek yesterday. It is reported that Hampton's cavalry was about moving down to the latter place.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. McENTEE,
Captain, &c.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: The Church road station reports that at 10.30 a. m. a column of about 1,000 infantry passed the fort near the lead-works, going in the direction of Petersburg. No colors could be seen, but it was divided into three detachments as if regiments. No other changes visible along the front of the enemy's right. The stations along the

Second Corps front report no change, excepting that the enemy fired from a mortar not heretofore used, and located 10 degrees south of west from the Avery house and between the first and second lines of the enemy.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The following messages were intercepted at Sergeant Holman's station to-day:

12.40 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

No change observed. Owing to fog I was unable to make any observations until 11 o'clock. I observed a slight increase of camps below Point of Rocks. One regiment of infantry passed rear of Point of Rocks going toward City Point.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

1 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One brigade of infantry passed open space just to our right of Point of Rocks, going toward front in Prince George. They came from front in Chesterfield.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

2.15 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of infantry just passed on road rear of Point of Rocks going to our right. The troops were moving rapidly. This road leads to Petersburg front.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

5.30 P. M.

Major P.:

There have passed, rear of Battery 5, going toward City Point, sixteen wagons, and going toward enemy's left one train and eighteen wagons.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the line to report since I assumed command. Officers of the Third Division picket reported during the night that the moving of artillery and wagons by the enemy to our right was heard.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding Second Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

The moving of the artillery and wagons by the enemy, heard by our pickets, was nearly opposite Fort Morton.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864. (Received 11.50 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A deserter from Wise's brigade who came in last night states that Wallace's brigade of South Carolina troops returned to their place in the trenches a night or two ago. A deserter from Gracie's brigade that left his regiment near midnight last night states that the work which has been observed going on for ten days past near the crater was not for a battery, but merely a rectification of the line, and that the heavy timbers which had been observed were merely for the bomb-proofs for the men, which had to be made strong. The wheels heard last night were wagons hauling timber for bomb-proofs. Gracie's brigade lies along the Crater. No movement of troops known. Six deserters are sent up.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864—1.45 p. m. (Received 5.25 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Seven men of the Eleventh New Jersey, McAllister's brigade, Mott's division, deserted from the picket-line to the enemy last night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

This dispatch has been delayed by an interruption in the line.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864. (Received 4.50 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have been delayed in reporting, by absence from headquarters and some business, that the firing to-day was begun by the enemy and was directed at some men of the Third Division under punishment. The reply led to their opening several batteries, whose fire was answered.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864—9.20 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance transpired in my front during yesterday or last night. Two deserters from the Florida brigade were received and forwarded.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864. (Received 10.36 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Nothing new along our lines. Two deserters came in during the night. One man, Twenty-sixth Mississippi, Davis' brigade; old soldier, clerk at brigade headquarters, very shrewd fellow; seems to have pretty accurate information about position of troops. Says that Sherman was within eight miles of Macon; had a fight; captured 600 wagons of subsistence stores.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864. (Received 2.10 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The strength available for duty in colored division, at the time it left to report to General Butler, was—commissioned officers, 144; enlisted men, 4,799; aggregate, 4,943. This includes the two regiments sent in advance and the regiment sent to City Point.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward a prisoner of war, Roger A. Pryor, captured on our lines, in retaliation for the capture of Capt. H. S. Burrage, Thirty-sixth Massachusetts, on the 1st instant.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 27, 1864—6.35 p. m.

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general desires that you will make a minute report of all the circumstances connected with the capture of Private Roger

A. Pryor, Third Virginia Cavalry, giving the names of every officer and soldier taking part in the capture. I am directed to add that the commanding general disapproves of retaliatory acts not directed by himself or a superior authority.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER:

GENERAL: I have the honor to call your attention to the following extract from telegram just received from headquarters Army of the Potomac:

The commanding general desires that you will make a minute report of all the circumstances connected with the capture of Private Roger A. Pryor, Third Virginia Cavalry, giving the names of every officer and soldier taking part in the capture.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. LYDIG,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Poplar Spring Church, Va., November 27, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Brig. Gen. S. G. Griffin, commanding Second Brigade, for report, with as little delay as practicable, in compliance with within extract from telegraphic orders.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CAMP ELEVENTH NEW HAMPSHIRE VOLUNTEERS,
Near Pegram House, Va., November 27, 1864.

Lieut. IRA G. WILKINS,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

LIEUTENANT: I have the honor to report that Private Roger A. Pryor, Third Virginia Cavalry, was captured in front of our picket-line, near Doctor Boisseau's house, under the following circumstances: Lieutenant Durgin, Thirty-second Maine Volunteers, who was on the right of the line, noticed this man several times between the lines waving papers and importuning our men to come out and exchange. The lieutenant sent to the left of the line for me, and when I came up this man (Pryor) came out from their lines and, waving his papers, beckoned me to come out and meet him. Mistaking him for an officer, I expressed the intention to the officers about me to go out and take him prisoner in retaliation for Captain Burrage, who was taken by the enemy in front of the picket-line of the First Brigade under similar circumstances. I immediately went out to meet him, and shook hands with him, telling him at the same time that he might consider himself my prisoner, in retaliation for Captain Burrage. He made

an attempt to draw his revolver, which I anticipated and prevented, when he said as he was under our guns he would submit, and I took him inside our lines without further trouble and sent him under guard to brigade headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. O. DUDLEY,
Captain Company C, Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers.

[Indorsement.]

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Near Pegram House, Va., November 28, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

Captain Hussey and Lieutenant Durgin, Thirty-second Maine Volunteers, officers of the picket under Captain Dudley, corroborate his statement.

S. G. GRIFFIN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 27, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you send a suitable scouting party toward Stony Creek, with an intelligent officer, to ascertain the position and force of the enemy; the party to leave at early daylight to-morrow. An engineer officer will be sent to accompany the party and examine the roads.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
November 27, 1864.

Col. J. IRVIN GREGG,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you send a regiment of your brigade on a scout toward Stony Creek Station to ascertain the strength and position of the enemy's force in that vicinity. The officer commanding the regiment sent will be instructed to take the road followed by the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry on a recent scout. Every effort will be made to obtain exact and accurate information. The regiment will start at early daylight to-morrow; an engineer officer from headquarters Army of the Potomac will accompany the regiment. Immediately upon the return of the regiment a report of its operations will be forwarded to these headquarters. If the regiment can cross at Lee's Mill it should pass that point to reach Proctor's on the plank road.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *November 27, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: Have the honor to report that Mr. Birney was here to-day. Tried a few shots at a house distant about two miles and a half. Struck very near it, but did not set it on fire. The enemy becoming greatly incensed, opened from all their heavy guns, some ten in number, concentrating their fire on my battery. No damage was done, except to knock down one or two of my houses, &c. Should have kept up the fire longer had I deemed it prudent. This revetment, being nearly all torn down, to be rebuilt. Shall have the houses repaired early to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 10TH A. C.,
No. 39. } *Before Richmond, Va., November 27, 1864.*

I. Commanding officers of regiments will hereafter be held responsible for the condition of the abatis and space between the works and abatis in front of their immediate camps. Officers and men are forbidden to go outside the abatis, except on the roads leading through the sally-port. Sentinels on the parapet in front of the different camps will be instructed to arrest all found violating the provisions of this order. The grounds between the work and abatis will be kept well policed, crossings will be constructed for access to the sinks (which must be used), and sentinels will see that no nuisance is committed between the work and abatis.

II. Morning field reports will hereafter have the cause of any changes in "effective force" from day to day noted on the back of the report.

By order of Col. G. B. Dandy, commanding brigade:

W. D. CRANDALL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FERRERO'S DIV., DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED,
November 27, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Chief of Staff, Headquarters Army of the James:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that my ammunition and supply train, ambulance and medical train, hospital paraphernalia and medical stores, have been retained in the Ninth Corps. I would respectfully request that they be returned to this command or others furnished in their stead. I would also state that there are a large number of men detailed in the various departments of the Ninth Corps which I desire should be returned as soon as practicable. The Twenty-eighth Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, belonging to this command, was ordered on fatigue duty at City Point, Va., a few days since. They are very much needed here, and I would respectfully request that they may be returned at once.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWARD FERRERO,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD FERRERO, *Commanding Division:*

GENERAL: I am directed by Brigadier-General Graham to state that the camp of the pioneer corps of the brigade commanded by Colonel Potter, situated on the rise of ground in rear of Battery Marshall, will not be occupied or destroyed by the troops of your command, as it is intended that it shall be still used as a camp for that organization.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. DALE BENSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 27, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Brigadier-General SHEPLEY:

Please send the man who has been in the mine near Petersburg to Fortress Monroe to me this afternoon.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 28, 1864—6.30 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington:*

If the Sixth Corps is moved here please send all the infantry before forwarding a single piece of artillery or wagon. I don't care for the artillery coming here at present if it can be used elsewhere. The wagon train can follow after all the troops are transported without the use of other transports than those now in service.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 28, 1864—8.30 p. m.*
(Received 9 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK, *Washington, D. C.:*

There is no evidence of any of Early's forces having come here, except Kershaw's division. Up to Saturday, certainly, none other had. It is highly probable, however, that Early may have been sending troops to Georgia by way of Lynchburg, Burkeville, and Danville. This report from Sheridan looks as if the Sixth Corps could now be spared.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 28, 1864—11 a. m. (Sent 11.45 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have taken no steps in reference to future movement, beyond conferring with Warren and sending a scouting party this morning toward Stony Creek to examine condition of roads. Warren stating that he

could withdraw easily the night before he moved, it was thought better not to disturb him as it might attract the attention of the enemy, and now, if there will be a few days before you propose to move, I would suggest relieving the Second Corps by the Ninth. This would give us the Second and Fifth for a movement, leaving the Ninth to hold the lines. The Second Corps has been so long in their present position it is entitled to be relieved, and the Ninth Corps is the one I should prefer having in a defensive position.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 28, 1864.*
(Received 1.03 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Make the transfer of places between the Second and Ninth Corps proposed.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 28, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

The movement which I spoke of for Thursday next will not take place, owing to the change of plan, which I will tell you of when we meet. It is advisable, however, that the Fifth Corps should be got out of the line ready for any emergency.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *November 28, 1864—3.15 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. W. S. HANCOCK:

The order for Colonel Morgan to report to you has not been issued, but his leave of absence has been extended ten days. You will have to procure an order from the Secretary of War transferring Colonel Morgan from the Second Army Corps, so as to leave his position in that corps vacant, that it may be filled by General Humphreys, otherwise he will have to remain with the corps.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Fifteen deserters from the enemy came into our lines last evening. They represent the following brigades: Fry's brigade, of Heth's division; McGowan's brigade, of Wilcox's division; Forney's, Harris', and Wright's brigades, of Mahone's division; Evans', Wise's, Gracie's, and Ransom's brigades, of Johnson's division. No informa-

tion of any movements on this side of the Appomattox. Some of informants report rumors in camp that Field's division has gone to Georgia; went via Danville railroad three days ago. Others discredit the report. None of informants have had an opportunity to learn anything definite of movements elsewhere than this side of the Appomattox. No reliable news from Sherman. One informant heard, in conversation among a group of officers, that Sherman had left Milledgeville and was on the roads to Charleston, S. C. The statements of these men give every evidence of foreboding and discontent in the rebel ranks. Desertion has become a more general topic of conversation and is openly discussed. Conscripts and returned detailed men swell up the regiments considerably of late. McGowan's brigade has received additions to the number of 300, and now musters 1,600 muskets. Very few regiments found containing over 300 men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
November 28, 1864.

Captain DAVIS:

The enemy's camps near Boisseau's property have been increased about one-half the usual number of tents. At 10.30 a. m. a train of twenty-five wagons passed a point on Boydton plank road, 25 degrees west of north, moving westward. Between the hours 11 a. m. and 1 p. m. two small columns of infantry, about 200 in each, passed same point, moving in same direction. No further movements noticed.

VAN B. SLEEPER,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

AVERY HOUSE SIGNAL STATION,
November 28, 1864.

Major FISHER:

A party of twenty of enemy at work in front line to left of Crater. A small party at work in front and left of Fort Meikel. No change in position. All quiet.

JANSEN.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Sergeant Holman reports:

No changes observed during the day; enemy building a long fort about a mile southeast of lead-mine; also building breast-works along the river-bank in this front.

Intercepted the following:

DUNN'S—11.40 a. m.

Colonel B.:

Considerable activity observed this a. m.; troops drawn up in line at winter quarters in open space. The enemy are strengthening their works on Mr. Gilliam's farm. Appearances indicate a movement of troops during the night. One regiment of infantry just passed on road, rear of Mr. Gilliam's, going toward Petersburg. Steamer just came up the river and stopped off Strahan's lower. [Page missing.]

The shelling lasted about twenty minutes. The pickets have been firing continually since. Owing to fog I could make no observations on the north side.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

2.50.

Colonel B.:

One regiment of infantry just passed open space going to front in Chesterfield.

R.,
Sergeant.

(Same to A. B.)

3 P. M.

Major P.:

One train of eleven coaches and five wagons just passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left. There have passed rear of the same, going toward City Point, twenty wagons.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

4 P. M.

Colonel B.:

Two companies of infantry just passed open space going to the front in Chesterfield.

(Same to A. B.)

Sergeant Jordan reports a locomotive on South Side Railroad all day. Nothing further observed.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 287. WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, November 28, 1864.*

ORDER FOR RAISING AND ORGANIZING A NEW VOLUNTEER ARMY CORPS.

I. That an army corps, to consist of not less than 20,000 infantry and enlisted for not less than one year, to be designated the First Corps, shall be organized in the District of Columbia, commencing the organization on the 1st day of December, 1864, and continuing until the 1st day of January next. The privates to consist only of able-bodied men who have served honorably not less than two years, and therefore not subject to draft; the officers to be commissioned from such as have honorably served not less than two years.

II. Recruits will be furnished transportation to Washington; will be credited to the district in which they or their families are domiciled, and will be paid a special bounty of $300 from the substitute fund upon being mustered into service. Each recruit who preserves his arms to the end of his term may retain them as his own upon being honorably discharged from service.

III. Details of organization will be prescribed by the Adjutant-General. The heads of bureaus will detail competent officers for the prompt examination and organization, arming, equipping, and supplying the corps.

IV. Major-General Hancock is assigned to the command of this corps, headquarters at Washington.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 322. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *November 28, 1864.*

1. The Two hundredth, Two hundred and fifth, Two hundred and eighth, and Two hundred and eleventh Regiments Pennsylvania Volunteers having reported for duty with this army, pursuant to orders from headquarters Armies of the United States, are assigned to the Ninth Army Corps, and will report to Maj. Gen. J. G. Parke, commanding, for further instructions.

* * * * * * *

5. The reserve division of the Second Corps will to-morrow morning relieve the First and Second Divisions of the Ninth Corps in the occupation of the portion of the line which they now hold, and those divisions on being relieved will at once proceed to relieve the troops of the Second Corps, now holding the right of this army. The latter, when relieved, will be massed in rear of the left of the army, and on taking up their position the remaining troops of the Ninth Corps will proceed to the right of the line, where they will be held in reserve. Special arrangements will be made hereafter with regard to the exchange of position of the batteries of the two corps.

6. The Second Corps, in moving to the left, will be allowed to take with it forty of its guns, and the necessary arrangements for the replacing of these guns by the guns of the Ninth Corps will be made by the commanders of the two corps.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 28, 1864—8 p. m.*

Brigadier-General BENHAM, *Commanding Engineer Brigade:*

There appears to be an attack upon the Bermuda Hundred front. Please hold your command in readiness to move at short notice if it should become necessary.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864. (Received 11 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Six deserters from Ransom's, Gracie's, Wise's, and Wallace's brigades, of Johnson's division, came in last night. Nothing new obtained from them.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

Major-General Gibbon reports that a portion of the gallery on the right of Fort Stedman has caved in, making it impossible to post a

sentinel therein as has been the custom. Should it cave in any more, a portion of the parapet on the right of the fort may come down. Can the engineer officer be sent to attend to it?

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 28, 1864.

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

An engineer officer will be sent to-morrow morning to superintend the repairs of Fort Stedman and the works in its vicinity.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: Before forwarding the accompanying communication* to headquarters Armies of the United States, the commanding general desires that General Gibbon have an opportunity of perusing the indorsement thereon. Will you, therefore, please send the letter to General Gibbon for that purpose? The regard the commanding general has for General Gibbon, and the sense he entertains of the services rendered by that officer, causes him to view, with regret, his application to be relieved from his command; and supposing that the application may have been presented without a careful consideration of all the circumstances attending the assignment of which he complains, you are authorized by the commanding general to say to General Gibbon that in case he now wishes to recall his request to be relieved an application to that effect will be favorably considered.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND ARMY CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: As the best mode of conveying to General Gibbon the contents of your note respecting his application, I sent it to him, together with his indorsed application, accompanied by a personal note. I return you herewith the original application of General Gibbon and his reply, and am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

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*See Gibbon to Williams, November 26, p. 714.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

[Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS:]

GENERAL: Your note and its inclosure has just been received. General Meade is perfectly correct in saying I would have made no objection to serving under you as permanent commander of the corps, for he well knows my views in regard to the right of a commander to choose his subordinates. My idea was that in sending any officer to command the corps during the temporary absence of General Hancock, an unusual course was pursued when the next officer was considered competent to the command, and that an unnecessary slight was put upon me, which, from my service in this army, I had no reason to expect. I regret very much that General Meade does not look at the matter in the same light, but my application was not made hastily or without a full consideration of all the circumstances, and further reflection has not served to change my opinion. I, therefore, do not desire to recall my application, and return it herewith.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 302. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va., November 28, 1864.

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2. Surg. A. N. Dougherty, medical director, having rejoined from a leave of absence, Surg. J. McNulty, U. S. Volunteers, is relieved from duty as acting medical director of the corps, and will resume his duties as surgeon-in-chief of the First Division.

* * * * * * *

6. In accordance with special orders from the headquarters Army of the Potomac, the First Division of this corps will withdraw to the rear, out of view of the enemy, before daylight to-morrow morning, and move by the rear line of works, so as to avoid being observed by the enemy, and relieve the First and Second Divisions of the Ninth Corps in the occupation of intrenched line now held by those divisions. None but the baggage wagons will accompany the commands.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NOVEMBER 28, 1864.

Major HAZARD,
Chief of Artillery, Second Corps:

General Humphreys reports that the new battery of the enemy enfilades his picket-line. I will go down at once. If you cannot meet me at the Jones house I shall go on to your headquarters.

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that three shots were fired yesterday from a battery to the left of the mine, which accounts in part for the work done at that point lately. This battery enfilades our picket-line. Small working parties have been observed on the works west of the rebel Fort Mahone. Seventeen rounds of ammunition expended on them; fifty-nine rounds from Cooper's mortars on working parties to the right and left of the Crater, and ninety rounds from Battery No. 20 in reply to shells from the enemy's mortars.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Lieut. THEODORE HUYSMAN,
Commanding Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery:

LIEUTENANT: The major commanding instructs me to say that he directs you to withdraw your battery at once from its present position and to park it in the field where the quartermaster of this brigade now has his train, which is in rear of these headquarters a short distance. He directs that you break camp and have your command in readiness to move at daylight at a moment's notice. The carriages can be heavily packed with grain, as the movement is only a short distance to the left to relieve the Ninth Corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Capt. J. HENRY SLEEPER,
Commanding Tenth Massachusetts Battery:

CAPTAIN: The major commanding instructs me to say that he directs you to break camp and have your battery in readiness to move at a moment's notice at daylight of the 29th, but not to move the pieces out of the forts. The movement will be to the left for the purpose of relieving the Ninth Corps, and the carriages can be heavily loaded with grain if necessary. If you have not horses enough to move your battery the battery wagon and forage may be left behind, under charge of an officer, who can bring them up as soon as he obtains the horses in the morning, which Captain Fisher, assistant quartermaster, has ready for issue.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General MILES,
First Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general wishes to know to what point you will withdraw your division to the rear previous to marching in the morning before daylight, and where any communication would reach you after you leave your present headquarters and previous to your beginning your march to the left of the line.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that ten men of the Third Brigade of this division deserted from the picket-line last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864—9.50 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in front of this corps during yesterday and last night. Eight deserters were received and forwarded. They were from the following regiments: Three from Sixth Virginia; three from Holcombe Legion; one from Eighth Florida, and one from Fifth Florida.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

General CRAWFORD:

As the One hundred and fourth New York Volunteers is entirely without officers, I think it best to have it broken up and the men transferred to some other in your division. I wish you would submit an application to that effect, naming the regiment to which the men should be assigned. I have recommended that Major Colt be retained at the prisoners' camp till his time of service expires. He will be of no use here.

Yours, truly,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 28, 1864.

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The Two hundredth, Two hundred and fifth, Two hundred and eighth, and Two hundred and eleventh Regiments Pennsylvania Volunteers are now on the way to report to you. The commanding general desires that you will report the available strength of those regiments, and the Two hundred and seventh and Two hundred and ninth Pennsylvania Regiments, at the time of joining you, and also whether they join you with the same allowance of transportation that the colored regiments took to the Army of the James.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: I have just received the order about shifting positions. I should like to see you in reference to assigning the divisions to their positions. About what time will your division be here to relieve mine on the line? Can we relieve the troops on your line by daylight? Do you propose moving your headquarters to-morrow? I presume it would be best for us to move our headquarters at the same time. Will you please have steps taken to prevent the men from burning and destroying quarters, stables, &c.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward report* concerning the capture of Roger A. Pryor, private Third Virginia Cavalry. Your telegram of yesterday informs me that the commanding general disapproves of retaliatory acts not directed by himself or superior authority. In reply I wish respectfully to state that no orders have been issued directing that any acts be committed in retaliation for the arrest of Captain Burrage, but I wish to add that the arrest of Roger A. Pryor under the circumstances has my hearty approval, as I have reasons to believe that this is not the first time of his visiting our line, a previous visit being made under an assumed name.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See Dudley to Wilkins, November 27, p. 722.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: My reserve division will begin to move to you about daylight. I shall send artillery enough with it to occupy your works, so that you bring all your artillery. I am authorized to take with me forty guns; of these, ten guns will come from the rear works. Colonel Hazard, chief of artillery, will ride over early to-morrow to see your chief of artillery. You cannot relieve my troops by daylight, except an inconsiderable portion to the left of Fort Davis. There are 1,500 men on picket along the intrenchments which must be relieved about sunset and before the firing begins. There are besides 500 men picketing the river nearly to the pontoon bridge. You had better send staff officers to-morrow, or your division commander had better send them to General Mott and General Gibbon to learn precisely how their troops are arranged in the intrenchments. I will send you to-morrow a tabular statement of the number occupying the inclosed works. I will not move my headquarters until day after to-morrow morning. You had better come over with your troops and pitch a temporary camp, your headquarters near mine, and then change. I suppose your troops will move by roads to the rear out of view, and the picket force move up to the intrenchments by hidden roads, so far as it is practicable. General Mott is at Jones' house; General Gibbon is at Friend's house.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. G. GRIFFIN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: By orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the reserve division of the Second Corps will, to-morrow morning, relieve the two divisions of this corps, which will proceed at once to relieve the two divisions of the Second Corps, a position on the right of the army. No hour is indicated in the order. You will have your command in readiness to move in the morning at whatever hour relieved.

By command of Brigadier-General Potter:
SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Bvt. Brig. Gen. John I. Curtin.)

CITY POINT, VA., *November 28, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Fortress Monroe:

Will you be at Fort Monroe to-morrow? If so, I will meet you and the admiral there at 3 p. m.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FORTRESS MONROE, VA., *November 28, 1864—11.40 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies, City Point:

I will await your coming and notify the admiral. Please telegraph me when you leave, so that I may be sure and meet you.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIEGE TRAIN,
Broadway Landing, Va., November 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. B. DYER,
Chief of Ordnance, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: At the request of Lieut. J. A. Kress, Ordnance Corps, U. S. Army, chief ordnance officer, Department of Virginia and North Carolina, in the field, I have made a thorough test of the Absterdam projectile for the 4½-inch ordnance gun. The following table exhibits the results. Every care was taken to obtain good practice. The officers had had much experience with the projectiles in common use, and I regard the test as decisive. The charge was 5.25 pounds:

Battery.	Commanding officer.	Elevation.	Number fired.	Took Grooves.	Tumbled.	Uncertain.	Burst well.	Burst at muzzle.	Did not burst.	Uncertain.	Remarks.
		° ′									
		2 08	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	Percussion.
		2 08	4	1	3	.....	.....	.....	3	1	Do.
Fort Brady..	Captain Pierce	3 10	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	Do.
		3 15	177	45	113	19	70	19	48	40	Do.
		4 45	41	8	28	5	22	25	10	4	Do.
Battery 17...	Lieutenant	5 08	4	1	.....	3	.....	3	.....	1	Do.
	Rogers.	5 30	8	7	.....	1	5	.....	1	2	Do.
Fort Morton.	Lieutenant	4 30	2	1	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	Time-fuse.
	Patterson.	4 45	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	Do.
Total..	.....	.....	239	65	144	30	100	28	62	49	

As to taking the rifled motion: Where 65 were successful 144 failed; a number which should probably be increased to 172, inasmuch as those bursting at the muzzle were counted as uncertain, while in reality they doubtless burst on account of not taking the grooves. The fuse is also apparently defective, 62 failing where 100 burst properly, to say nothing of the large number, 28, of premature explosions. The premature explosions, and the very dangerous stripping of lead, rendered it unsafe to fire from Battery 17 and Fort Morton. At Fort Brady, where there are no pickets in front, the firing was continued until it was feared that the bad practice might encourage the rebels. I am satisfied that the projectile is very much inferior to that of Parrott and Schenkl, and have accordingly ordered the issue of it to my batteries to cease.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY L. ABBOT,
Colonel First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding Siege Train.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 189.

HDQRS. TENTH ARMY CORPS, ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., November 28, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

3. Col. Edward Martindale, Eighty-first U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby assigned to command of the post at Deep Bottom.

By command of Brevet Major-General Terry:

WM. P. SHREVE,
First Lieut., Second U. S. Sharpshooters and Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 28, 1864.*

Brigadier-General GRAHAM,
Bermuda Hundred:

Heavy firing is heard apparently on your front. Does it appear to be an attack of the enemy?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS PROVISIONAL BRIGADE, *November 28, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The firing on my front has entirely ceased. The enemy had advanced on the right this afternoon in portion of the woods where there has been no contest before. We have straightened our line and are now strengthening it. The colored division is in fine spirits, and if the line is attacked, which I do not apprehend, will give a good account of itself.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HATCHER'S, *November 28, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

About 8.45 this morning the enemy's picket-line on the right and extending to left of the open field in front of Battery Marshall opened quite vigorously without any apparent object. We returned the fire and our batteries opened. The rebels likewise opened with their batteries, developing two new embrasures in their work in front of Battery Marshall. The firing has almost entirely ceased.

C. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES, *November 28, 1864.*

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL, TENTH CORPS:

SIR: I have the honor to call the attention of the general commanding the Tenth Corps to the fact that Horse Battery B, First U. S. Artillery, of my command, temporarily placed in redoubts in front of Deep Bottom, has not been relieved. They were placed there temporarily and with the understanding that they were soon to be relieved.

Should the exigencies of the service require my command to be turned out, it would become necessary to relieve it, and it would be better to relieve it before than after such an emergency; and even should no such emergency arise, it is not usual to place horse batteries in redoubts as long as there are foot batteries to do the duty. If the battery cannot be relieved it should be notified of the fact in order that the commander make his horses and men as comfortable as the situation and permanency of the duty will justify, and that I may take steps to provide the cavalry with an available battery for any event.

Trusting that the general will give his earliest attention to this matter, I remain,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry Division.

NORTH ATLANTIC SQUADRON, U. S. FLAG-SHIP MALVERN,
Hampton Roads, November 29, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

What time may I expect you here?

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

CITY POINT, *November 29, 1864—9.05 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

The Richmond Inquirer of to-day says that it is no longer contraband to state that General Breckinridge's troops are now marching on a campaign that will soon make Kentucky ring with the shouts of his men if Burbridge has not already felt the shock of his steel. It says further that intelligence from Augusta, of the 26th, states that the Macon train arrived on the previous night at the usual time, and that the rumor that the Central road had been cut was incorrect. The Augusta papers of the 25th, says the Whig, report that General Wayne had whipped Kilpatrick's cavalry division at the Oconee. Wheeler with many thousand men has intercepted the enemy at a point at present unmentionable, and is giving them no rest night or day. The Richmond papers all assert that Grant is moving heavy columns to our left with a view of seizing the railroad, and deserters from Grant report great activity among his troops. They also claim that Mahone captured from sixty to seventy prisoners from the Bermuda line on Monday night. General Bragg assumed command of North Carolina, with headquarters at Wilmington, on the 17th.

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA.,
November 29, 1864. (Received 8.31 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I leave here at 10 a. m. for Fortress Monroe. Will be back early in the morning.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS WILCOX'S DIVISION,
November 29, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *Comdg. Armies of the United States:*

SIR: I take the liberty of writing to you with reference to an incident that occurred between the picket-lines of the two armies on Sunday, the 27th instant, about 2 p. m., and after my explanation of the affair I trust that the request that I make may be granted, believing that my statement will be confirmed by the reports of the officers and men of your forces. The affair that I refer to is the capture of Private Roger A. Pryor, Third Virginia Cavalry, on the 27th instant, by the pickets of the troops under your command, and under the following circumstances, viz: At the time mentioned above this soldier rode up to our picket-line and looked for awhile at the opposite line through his glass, then dismounted from his horse, and taking from his pocket a newspaper waved it toward a group of Federal officers. One of these responded to this with a paper in a similar manner, and the two mutually approached for the exchange of papers. Private Pryor asked the pickets on our side not to fire. Upon meeting each other they shook hands and exchanged papers. The Federal officer then seized Pryor by the arm and led him off to the rear. Upon reaching the line in rear a crowd gathered around them and seemed to regard him as a prisoner, and since then he has not been seen. I feel much interest in the case of this soldier, but cannot ask of the commander of our forces to intercede for him, for it is against his positive orders to exchange papers with the Federals, and doubtless there are like orders from yourself. It is, however, well known that papers are exchanged, and as above indicated, and when not actually engaged in deadly strife men from both armies are anxious and willing, and very naturally so, to hold communication and to exchange papers. This soldier is, I believe, thoroughly imbued with a sentiment of honor, and could not have approached your lines with any sinister purpose; and though at this time a private in the ranks from choice, has been both a colonel and a brigadier-general in our army and filled both grades with credit to himself. Should my statement be corroborated by that of your officers I believe that this man's case will be favorably regarded by you, and [that he] will soon be returned to our lines, to his friends and family.

I am, with high respect, very truly, &c.,

C. M. WILCOX,
Major-General, C. S. Army.

[Indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 30, 1864.

Respectfully referred to Maj. Gen. George G. Meade for such answer as he may deem proper, if it is deemed necessary to answer at all.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FORTRESS MONROE, VA.,
November 29, 1864—4 p. m. (Received 4.25 p. m.)

General M. C. MEIGS, *Quartermaster-General:*

I have directed all steamers to be sent to Washington to be in readiness to bring back the Sixth Corps. Please give corresponding orders. The troops should embark immediately on arrival with artillery. The wagon trains can be embarked afterward at leisure.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE, *Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: Three deserters from the enemy and two prisoners of war forwarded to-day. The prisoners of war are two of Hampton's scouts, taken in the late cavalry reconnaissance. The deserters are all from the Seventeenth South Carolina, Wallace's brigade (Evans' old); bring no late information. One of them states that he saw Richmond papers of the 27th instant containing information from Sherman. He had passed through Macon and Milledgeville, and was moving two columns, one by the State road to Augusta, and the other by the Macon road to Savannah; was rumored that he had taken Augusta. Nothing had thus far opposed him but Wheeler's cavalry, some 7,000 strong. Contrabands from Prince George and Sussex Counties report that some 200 negroes are at work on the new railroad branch at Stony Creek; commenced laying the ties last Friday. The junction is about a quarter of a mile north of the station. Its course will follow the new military road. Some of the most intelligent contrabands think it is not intended to connect with the South Side Railroad, and will only be a short branch of a few miles to facilitate the transportation of forage, the roads in the vicinity being impassable in winter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

MEADE'S HEADQUARTERS,
November 29, 1864.

Capt. J. C. PAINE, *Signal Officer:*

The general commanding wishes to know what progress you made, if any, in the erection of the tower referred to by him.

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

The tower referred to was not built, as it was deemed best to wait awhile before taking action upon it.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant Signal Corps, Army of the Potomac:

Last night the enemy placed about 200 yards of chevaux-de-frise in rear of the abatis north from station. Enemy improving works near lead-works and on flats to the right of large fort.

CAROTHERS,
Sergeant.

All quiet.

JANSEN.

No change on this front to-day.

JORDAN.

All quiet.

HOLMAN.

The more minute details of the several reports I place on file and will forward in connection with my usual monthly report. Your telegram in reference to my communication [received]. Will reply to-morrow.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
November 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The station at the Friend house reports:

This a. m. about four regiments of infantry came on Cemetery Hill, near white house, remained a few minutes, and returned behind the hill. A small camp beyond Petersburg disappeared since morning.

Church road station reports:

At 8 a. m. a train of cars passed into Petersburg upon the South Side Railroad. At 12 m. a detachment of infantry, about 200, moved westward on the Boydton plank road. A few wagons seen moving in both directions on Boydton plank road. Working parties engaged on works in vicinity of lead-works.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
November 29, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

The enemy are improving front line of works to the right of large fort; also fort near lead-works. Camps unchanged.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864. (Received 9.45 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I suppose the trains and hospitals of the Second Corps are to exchange positions with those of the Ninth Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864. (Received 10.40 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

The First Division moved at an early hour this morning to the left. No changes in the disposition of the Second or Third Divisions have been made since last report. Nothing unusual has occurred.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 29, 1864. (Sent 12.50 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

In answer to your dispatch of this morning I am instructed to say that the trains and hospitals of the Second Corps are to exchange positions with those of the Ninth Corps. The commanding general desires, however, that in locating your hospital at Patrick's Station more room be given the railroad depot at that place than was allowed by the arrangements of the Ninth Corps hospital.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 303. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Deserted House, before Petersburg, Va., November 29, 1864.

* * * * * * *

5. The detachment of the First Maine Heavy Artillery, now stationed at Cedar Level, on being relieved during the night or early to-morrow morning by a detachment from the Ninth Army Corps, will immediately join its division, on the Jerusalem plank road, in rear of the Jones house, if possible before sunrise. Failing to do so, they will proceed to the vicinity of the Peebles house and there join their command with the division, taking the roads near the rear line of intrenchments.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that yesterday the enemy fired a few shots from their Chesterfield battery at the right of our line Twenty-eight mortar shells were thrown at working parties on our right of the mine by Captain Cooper's battery. Forty-eight rounds fired from Fort McGilvery and Battery 9 in reply to the enemy and at working parties. Two shots from Fort Davis fired at a small working party in its front. Last night Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, were withdrawn from the Avery house battery, and the Tenth Massachusetts and Battery K, Fourth U. S. Artillery, from the rear line. At daylight this morning these batteries were in readiness to follow the First Division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. GIBBON,
Commanding Second Division, Second Army Corps:

GENERAL: As soon as General Miles relieves the First and Second Divisions, of the Ninth Army Corps, they will move this way, and to-night

will relieve your division and that of General Mott's in the intrenchments you now hold. I have notified General Parke, commanding the Ninth Corps, of the hour at which your pickets are relieved and have requested him to have his pickets here at that hour to relieve yours, and have requested him to send staff officers during the day to see you and learn how your troops and pickets are posted, so that they may be relieved readily (the troops) as soon as it is dark. General Parke knows what part of the line you hold. As fast as your division is relieved you will withdraw it to the rear, out of view of the enemy, in the vicinity of the Norfolk road, and at 8.30 a. m. will follow General Mott's division on the roads near the rear line of intrenchments and mass your division in some convenient place for camping on the left of the Third Division, who will encamp along the rear line of intrenchments from Fort Cummings to Fort Siebert. The general position you will occupy will be indicated to you before you reach the ground. You will put out a line of pickets connecting with Mott on your [right] and the Fifth Corps on your left. If the Fifth Corps have no pickets there, you will extend yours to the Weldon railroad. There are cavalry pickets posted in front of where your line of pickets will be. Your baggage wagons and such ambulances as are necessary for carrying the sick in quarters will move with the division. Further instructions respecting the positions of your baggage wagons in moving will be sent you. The trains will be moved under the direction of the chief quartermaster of the corps. You will be advised of their movement, position to be occupied, &c.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICERS SECOND AND THIRD DIVISIONS:

SIR: The commanding general desires that you will report the fact to these headquarters when your troops are relieved from the intrenchments and concentrated in the rear at the points indicated in the instructions of this day. The supply trains will be moved to-morrow to the left, under the direction of the chief quartermaster of the corps. The hospitals will be moved under the direction of the chief medical officer of the corps. In moving to-morrow each division will be followed by its baggage wagons.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Third Division, Second Army Corps:

GENERAL: As soon as Brigadier-General Miles relieves the First and Second Divisions of the Ninth Corps, they will move this way, and to-night will relieve your division and that of General Gibbon in the

intrenchments you now hold. I have notified General Parke, commanding Ninth Corps, of the hour at which the pickets are relieved, and have requested him to have his pickets here at that hour in order to relieve yours, and to send staff officers during the day to see you and learn how your troops and pickets are posted, so that they may be relieved readily (the troops) as soon as it is dark. General Parke knows what part of the line you hold. As fast as your division is relieved, you will draw it to the rear, out of view of the enemy, and at sunrise to-morrow morning will march it by the roads near the rear lines of intrenchments to the vicinity of the Peebles house, and encamp it about where the Third Division of the Ninth Corps is now camped—along the rear line between Fort Cummings and Fort Siebert. The Third Division of the Ninth Corps are to move out upon your arrival there. You will post a line of pickets connecting with the left of those of the First Division and covering your front. Cavalry pickets are posted in front of where your line of pickets will be. Your baggage wagons and such ambulances as are necessary for carrying the sick in quarters will move with the division. Further instructions respecting the position of your baggage wagons in moving will be sent you. The trains will be moved under the directions of the chief quartermaster of the corps. You will be advised of their movement, position to be occupied, &c.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

In accordance with orders from superior headquarters this division will be relieved as soon after dark as practicable by troops of the Ninth Corps. As fast as each brigade of this division is relieved it will be withdrawn to the rear, out of view of the enemy, and massed near the Southall house, and at sunrise to-morrow morning will march by the road near the rear line of intrenchments and encamp along the rear line between Fort Cummings and Fort Siebert. No wagons, except baggage wagons and the ambulances necessary for carrying the sick in quarters, will move with troops. Brigade commanders will take the necessary precautions to prevent quarters, stabling, &c., being burned or destroyed on their commands leaving them. A staff officer from each brigade headquarters will report to Maj. J. Willian, assistant inspector-general of this division, at 2 p. m. this day at these headquarters, who will designate the place that each brigade will occupy to-night.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

The brevet major-general commanding directs that brigade commanders report to these headquarters when their troops are relieved from the intrenchments and concentrated in the rear, as indicated in this morning's circular. The supply train will be moved to-morrow to

the left under the direction of the chief quartermaster of the corps. The hospital will be moved under the direction of the chief medical officer of the corps. In moving to-morrow the baggage wagons and ammunition train will follow the troops.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Col. JOHN PULFORD,
Commanding Fort Davis, Va.:

COLONEL: Pursuant to orders from superior headquarters the troops composing the garrison under your command will be relieved to-night soon after dark. You will therefore have your command ready to move as soon as relieved. When relieved you will march your command to the rear of the Southall house, where you will be put in position by a staff officer from these headquarters. You will caution your men about burning or destroying any of the quarters or out-houses. You will leave no guard behind, as men will not be permitted to return for things left. Pickets will be under the command of the brigade officer of the day.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. W. FORRESTER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864—9.40 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet along my lines during the last twenty-four hours. Eight deserters received, viz: Two from Nineteenth Mississippi, two from Tenth Alabama, one from Third Georgia, three from Seventeenth South Carolina.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifth Corps:

COLONEL: The enemy has withdrawn his advanced line from the point of woods between the Bailey house and the Davis house on the Halifax road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 29, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General MEADE:

I forward this communication and paper to you. I think the withdrawal of the picket-line does not mean much. The pickets are still at the Bailey house, which is their main line.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864—8 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: I have received your telegram of last night, and also a tabular statement of strength of garrisons. The two divisions of this corps that are to relieve General Gibbon's and General Mott's divisions are of almost equal strength in number of muskets. Would the present division of the line between Gibbon and Mott be fair between Willcox and Potter? In other words, are the divisions of Mott and Gibbon equal in number of muskets? If not, what change would you propose, or where should be the dividing line between the two divisions?

Respectfully, yours,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 28th instant, inclosing the report of Capt. H. O. Dudley, Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers, of the circumstances attending the capture of Private Roger A. Pryor, Third Virginia Cavalry, has been laid before the commanding general. Paragraph 6, of Special Orders, No. 157,* of June 9, 1864, from these headquarters, copy herewith, in relation to intercourse with the enemy, was furnished at its date to all corps commanders, and its closing sentence requires such commanders to see that unauthorized communication with the enemy is no longer permitted. The conduct of Captain Dudley, on the occasion in question, being in direct disregard of the order cited is disapproved by the major-general commanding, and he regrets that it should have met with your approval. In view of the manner in which Private Pryor approached the pickets, his object evidently being to effect an exchange of newspapers, the commanding general considers that he should have been warned off; but as it appears that he has heretofore visited our lines, and in one instance under an assumed name, he will now be detained as a prisoner of war. Deserters, refu-

*See Vol. XXXVI, Part III, p. 711.

gees, and contrabands, coming to our lines for the purpose of remaining, will, of course, be received and disposed of in the manner indicated by existing orders.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

The available strength of the six new Pennsylvania regiments is 177 officers and 4,267 men. They brought the same amount of transportation that the colored troops took away.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 30, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I would respectfully recommend the promotion by brevet of Capt. Michael R. Morgan, commissary of subsistence, regular army, and lieutenant-colonel and chief commissary of the armies operating against Richmond, to the rank of colonel in the regular army. Colonel Morgan is well known as one of the most efficient officers in his department, and has been kept out of promotion by his efficiency as a staff officer, making it objectionable to let him be placed in command of troops. He is an officer that it will always be desirable should have brevet rank above many of his seniors, so as to make him available for responsible and important positions. It will require three brevets to give him the grade asked. I would further request that the promotion here asked be given at once, so that it may go into the Senate early after the meeting of Congress, or with the first appointments sent to that body for confirmation.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 30, 1864—7.30 p. m.*
(Received 8.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Is it not practicable now to spare from 5,000 to 10,000 of the Veteran Reserve Corps for the field? The latter number could now be advantageously used so as to give an equal number for duty in the field of able-bodied men. They could garrison Fort Monroe, Norfolk, Wilson's Wharf, Powhatan, and City Point.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *November 30, 1864—11.40 a. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I am just in receipt of news from Savannah to the 26th. Augusta papers announce the approach there of Hampton's cavalry. It also gives the following dispatch:

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
November 24, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Augusta:

Please insert this in all papers in Augusta: "All men of my command now in Georgia will rendezvous forthwith in Augusta, and those in South Carolina at Columbia and await orders."

WADE HAMPTON.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 30, 1864—12 m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Try to ascertain how much force Hampton has taken from here with him. He has gone himself beyond doubt. If the enemy has reduced his cavalry force much, we must endeavor to make a raid upon the Danville road. Bragg has taken most of the troops from Wilmington to Georgia, which will aid an expedition which I have ordered from New Berne to cut the Weldon road south of the Roanoke River.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 30, 1864—12 m. (Sent 12.10 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Deserters this morning report that all the dismounted cavalry, about 1,000 in number, have been sent to Georgia, it being understood they were to be remounted there. No other part of the cavalry force has gone, so far as our information extends. It is probable Hampton has been sent to organize these and other mounted troops, he coming from that section of country. Gregg's scouting party returned day before yesterday, having gone within two miles of Stony Creek, bringing back some few prisoners, contrabands, and refugees, and capturing six wagons loaded with wheat. From these persons it was learned that the cavalry occupied their old positions, the main body at Dinwiddie Court-House. No departure of any troops south was reported. All is quiet on the lines. The exchange of position between the Ninth and Second Corps will be accomplished to-day.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 30, 1864—2 p. m. (Received 3 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The best way, in my judgment, to ascertain whether Hampton has taken away any considerable part of his force will be to send Gregg's cavalry over toward Dinwiddie Court-House and make them develop

their force. The only difficulty is that if Hampton's force is not reduced, he so largely outnumbers Gregg it is hard for the latter to find out anything positive. Still, if you think it worth while I will send him. We generally get the earliest and most precise information from deserters and refugees.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 30, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Forward the following, just received:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following deserters have been received thus far to-day: Three from Thirty-third North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division; two from Thirty-seventh North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division; two from Nineteenth Mississippi, Harris' brigade, Mahone's division; two from Eleventh Alabama, Wilcox's old brigade, Mahone's division; one from Sixth Virginia, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division; two from Fifteenth North Carolina, Cooke's brigade, Heth's division; total, twelve. No information of any infantry or cavalry having gone to Georgia, except the dismounted cavalry sent off about a week ago; thought to be 1,000 or 1,500 of them; Governor Brown, of Georgia, promised to mount them. One deserter, just received, states that he heard some of Early's cavalry had gone to Georgia; also that Hoke's division had gone. No movement of Hampton's cavalry was reported by the contrabands received yesterday. He was encamped on the Quaker road at last accounts. It seems almost impossible for any considerable force of the enemy's cavalry to have moved south without its being known to some of the contrabands received yesterday; will question closely concerning it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 30, 1864.*
(Received 3.55 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The information obtained from deserters just sent by the provost-marshal satisfies me that only Hampton in person and his dismounted cavalry have gone to Georgia. There will be no use, therefore, of sending out the cavalry to ascertain what force of the enemy have left. The enemy evidently think, however, that we are about making a grand attack, and if this idea can be kept up by sending the cavalry out it would be well to send them.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 30, 1864—7 p. m. (Sent 7.40 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

A scout of the enemy, belonging to Butler's cavalry brigade, was captured this a. m by some of our cavalry, and has just been sent in. It has been positively ascertained from him that General Hampton was

in camp near Burgess' Mill on the 27th instant, his wife being with him on a visit. Hampton is known to have a son, now in South Carolina, who was recently wounded in Hood's army. If his name is Wade it may account for the proclamation in the Augusta papers. The prisoner will not answer directly whether any of the cavalry has gone south, but the inference from his examination is that no mounted force has gone. I have ordered Gregg to move with all his available force to-morrow, and endeavor to ascertain if the enemy is building a railroad from Stony Creek, and try to find out whether any forces have gone south. I have replied to Major-General Wilcox that the same reasons which interfered with his asking his commanding general's interposition will prevent my returning Private R. A. Pryor, viz., the impossibility of sanctioning this irregular and unauthorized intercourse. I have moreover informed him that I have recommended the dismissal from the service of Captain Burrage, of a Massachusetts regiment, who a few days ago allowed himself to be captured in the same manner as Mr. Pryor was taken.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 30, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

One division of the Sixth Corps leaves Stephenson's Station at 11 a. m. to-morrow for Washington, and will embark and be on its way here by the morning of the 2d. The other two divisions will follow, a day intervening between the departure of divisions. I would suggest that the Sixth Corps be put in the line to relieve the Fifth Corps.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 30, 1864—10 p. m.*

Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Fort Monroe:

Southern papers show that Bragg with a large part of his force has gone to Georgia. If we can get off during his absence we will stand a good chance, not only to carry Fort Fisher, but to take Wilmington. The troops will be ready to start the moment you are ready.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

U. S. FLAG-SHIP MALVERN,
Hampton Roads, November 30, 1864.
(Received 12.30 a. m. December 1.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

Can start in three days on the original arrangement of 12,000 men. Will take a little longer to fit powder vessel.

DAVID D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
November 30, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The scout captured this a. m. by General Gregg's command has just been forwarded. He is from the Jeff. Davis Legion, Butler's brigade. In my conversation with him I have learned beyond a doubt that General Wade Hampton was in camp (near Burgess' Mill) on the 27th instant, and that his wife was with him on a visit. Hampton has a son, lately wounded, in Hood's army, now at home in South Carolina. The prisoner will not answer directly as to whether or no any of Hampton's cavalry has been sent to Georgia, but I am led to believe from his replies that it has not gone; certainly, General Hampton was here four days ago.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864.

Major FISHER:

The following is Holman's report, which was mislaid last night:

All quiet this p. m. The enemy are still fortifying this front. The following has been intercepted:

"STEUART'S FRONT—9.20 a. m.

"Colonel B[RENT]:

"I heard firing at intervals during the night. I noticed a small increase in the tents of Battery C. Several tents were down to the left of Battery A. I noticed a relief picket going in the opposite direction from what they were yesterday. Wagons were passing, but in no heavy trains. Steamer just come up the river and stopped off Strahan's lower landing.

"R.,
"*Sergeant.*

("Same to A. B.")

"10.45 A. M.

"Colonel B[RENT]:

"Considerable increase in camps below Point of Rocks. Two steamers and one schooner off Strahan's lower landing. One gun-boat and one transport above Port Walthall.

"R.,
"*Sergeant.*

("Same to A. C.")

"11.45 A. M.

"Major P.:

"One train of seventeen coaches, tops loaded with troops, just passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left.

"W.,
"*Sergeant, at D.*"

"2.50 P. M.

"Major P.:

"There have passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, two trains, one of nine box-cars and six coaches. No troops visible. One ambulance and twenty-nine wagons in rear of same battery going toward City Point. One train of eight coaches, seventeen wagons, and one ambulance. The camp on hill, rear of Battery 5, has disappeared.

"W.,
"*Sergeant, at D.*"

"STEUART'S FRONT—3.45 p. m.

"Colonel B.:

"The skirmishing still continues—the usual drilling. Thirty-two wagons passed up the river and forty down. At 2 p. m. Battery F opened fire on our line and is still firing.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to C.")

"4.15 P. M.

"Major P.:

"One train of nine coaches, crowded with troops, just passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left.

"W.,
"*Sergeant, at D.*"

Very respectfully,

J. C. PAINE,
Captain.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 44. } *November 30, 1864.*

Recent occurrences make it necessary for the major-general commanding to direct the attention of this army to the orders now in force prohibiting intercourse with the enemy, and he republishes for general information the following extract from Special Orders, No. 157, of June 9, 1864, from these headquarters, a strict observance of which will be required hereafter:

No communication will be held with the enemy, unless specially authorized from these or superior headquarters, or except so far as may be necessary to properly receive a flag of truce coming from the enemy's lines. All other communication is strictly prohibited, whether by means of conversation, signals, or otherwise, or by an interchange of newspapers or commodities. Corps commanders will see that the unauthorized intercourse with the enemy, which it is known has from time to time taken place, notwithstanding the reiterated orders upon the subject, is no longer permitted.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 30, 1864. (Received 8.50 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

By 3.40 a. m. the Second and Third Divisions of this corps were relieved in the intrenchments by two divisions of the Ninth Corps and massed well to the rear. The artillery of the corps to be withdrawn from the intrenchments had also been relieved and parked to the rear preparatory to moving by that hour. The pickets of Colonel McAllister's brigade, Mott's division, had been relieved by a new detail before the pickets of the Ninth Corps got to the ground. They will be relieved by the Ninth Corps this evening. The enemy opened their artillery upon the picket details moving up to relieve the old pickets.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864. (Received 11.50 p. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

The remaining two divisions of the Second Corps were massed this p. m. as directed in the evening of the 28th instant, and the trains correspondently transferred.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires that the accompanying letter be sent to the enemy's lines by flag of truce, at the same point on the right of Fort Cummings that the letter addressed to Lieutenant-General Grant, and forwarded with your communication of yesterday, was received.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. C. M. WILCOX, C. S. Army:

Your letter of the 28th instant has been referred to me by Lieut.-Gen. U. S. Grant, with directions to reply to it. I regret extremely it is not in my power to accede to your request by returning to your lines Private R. A. Pryor, Third Virginia Cavalry. The same considerations which prevented you from applying to your commanding general preclude me from sanctioning this irregular intercourse between the opposing pickets, which is in direct violation of my orders, and for violating which and thus permitting himself to be captured in a similar manner, I recently dismissed Captain Burrage, of a Massachusetts regiment.*

Private Pryor will have to suffer the consequences of his imprudence. He will be held as a prisoner of war, and with all consideration due to his position.

I remain, general, with great respect, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 304. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, before Petersburg, Va., November 30, 1864.

1. Major-General Gibbon, commanding Second Division, is charged with the preservation of the intrenchments, abatis, and slashing from Fort Siebert to half way between Fort Clarke and Fort Dushane, including Forts Siebert and Clarke.

* By Special Orders, No. 61, War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, February 7, 1865, the dismissal of Captain Burrage, was, by direction of the President, revoked.

2. Brevet Major-General Mott, commanding Third Division, is charged with the preservation of the intrenchments, abatis, and slashing from Fort Cummings to Fort Siebert, including Fort Emery.

By order of Major General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTY. BRIG., SECOND CORPS,
No. 198. } *November 30, 1864.*

The commanding officers of the following-named batteries will report to Col. John C. Tidball, commanding Artillery Brigade, Ninth Corps, without delay: Sixth Maine Battery, Third New Jersey Battery, Battery F, First Pennsylvania Artillery; Battery G, First New York Artillery; Battery C, Fourth New York Artillery.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST DIVISION:

SIR: The commanding general desires me to inform you that the following are the prescribed garrisons for the forts under your command: Fort Fisher, 150 men; Fort Welch, 175 men; Fort Gregg, 75 men; Fort Sampson, 75 men; Fort Cummings, 175 men. Each of the above-named works will be garrisoned by the number of men above designated, provided sufficient space can be found in the works to locate the men. If not, as many men as practicable will be assigned to garrison the works. You will please report to these headquarters to-morrow by what troops the forts are garrisoned, and who is in command of each.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to recommend that the Fourth New York Artillery, now attached to the First Brigade of this division, be transferred to the Fourth Brigade. The First Brigade has an aggregate present of 3,008. The Fourth Brigade has an aggregate present of 1,320. The aggregate present of Fourth New York Artillery is 673.

Very respectfully,

N. A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864—8.50 p. m.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. GEORGE N. MACY,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general directs that a small party of old men be posted in rear of the position of the picket-line occupied by the recruits of the Sixty-first New York Volunteers, to be withdrawn in the morning; also that the officers on the line be directed to use the greatest vigilance during the night, going along it frequently.

I am, general, very respectfully,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864—3.40 a. m.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: In compliance with instructions from corps headquarters of yesterday, I have the honor to report that the troops of this command have been relieved and concentrated at the points indicated; also to report that these headquarters will not be moved until 8.30 this a. m.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires you to garrison Fort Cummings with 175 men. If there is not sufficient space in the work to locate the above number, you will place as many men in the work as practicable. Please report to these headquarters to-morrow what troops have been placed in the fort and by whom commanded.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in my front during yesterday and last night. Three deserters (one from Nineteenth Mississippi and two from Thirty-seventh North Carolina) were received and forwarded.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
November 30, 1864—10.40 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report that the First and Second Divisions are in position along the line, having relieved two divisions of the Second Corps. The Provisional Brigade has not yet arrived. I understood that Colonel Potter, of the Twelfth New Hampshire, was to come with these six regiments from General Butler's command. Colonel Potter has not reported. I should like to know as soon as possible whether he is coming or not, it being important in the organization of the division.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864—10.45 a. m.

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

My reserve division is made up of six new regiments. I wish to camp these so that they can be drilled. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that the works from Fort Stevenson to Fort Bross be garrisoned or guarded by dismounted cavalry.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 30, 1864. (Sent 11.37 a. m.)

General J. G. PARKE, *Commanding Ninth Corps:*

Your two dispatches of this morning received. The commanding general directs that two of your reserve regiments be encamped on the left of the Jerusalem plank road, two in your center, and two on your right. It is not practicable to send dismounted cavalry to Forts Stevenson and Bross, as suggested by you. You need not, however, occupy those works by more men than are necessary to keep them in order. Garrisons in them, sufficient for their defense against an attack, are not at this time required. The commanding general does not know when Colonel Potter may be expected, but arrangements for the command of your reserve division will soon be made here.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864—3.55 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

In your dispatch of this a. m. the commanding general desires that two of my reserve regiments be posted on the left of plank road. I had intended camping them along the railroad just to the right of Fort Prescott. Will you please ask the commanding general if it will answer to camp these regiments in that position instead of on the left of plank road.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 30, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Maj. Gen. J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

In answer to your dispatch of 3.55 p. m. I am instructed by the commanding general to say that he is not particularly desirous that the two regiments in reserve on your left should be on the left of the Jerusalem plank road. He only wishes them to be in such a position that they can readily support your left if necessary, and this condition would seem to be fulfilled by posting the regiments near Fort Prescott, as proposed by you.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 34. } HDQRS. 2D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 9TH A. C.,
Near Petersburg, Va., November 30, 1864.

1. In obedience to orders of the brigadier-general commanding the division, the following disposition of the regiments comprising this brigade will be made:

2. The Thirteenth Ohio Cavalry will hold the line from the right where its right now rests to Battery No. 5, and will garrison Battery No. 5.

3. The First Michigan Sharpshooters will occupy the line to the right of Fort McGilvery.

4. The Fiftieth Pennsylvania will garrison Fort McGilvery. If there is not sufficient room in the fort to quarter the whole number, the surplus will encamp in the ravine in rear of the fort near old Battery No. 8.

5. The Forty-sixth New York Veteran Volunteers will hold the line between Fort McGilvery and Battery No. 9.

6. The Twentieth Michigan will garrison Battery No. 9, with one company in the apron on the left of the battery.

7. The Second Michigan will occupy the works from the left of the Twentieth Michigan to the angle of the works between Batteries Nos. 9 and 10.

8. The Sixtieth Ohio will be held in reserve, and will encamp on the ground formerly occupied by the headquarters of Colonel Murphy, a little distance in rear of Fort McGilvery.

9. The necessary changes of position by the regiments will be made immediately after dark this evening.

By command of Lieut. Col. B. M. Cutcheon:

THOS. MATHEWS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Jones' House, Va., November 30, 1864.

Maj. P. M. LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the disposition of the troops of my command: Fort Meikel, Fifty-eighth Massachusetts Volunteers and Fifty-first New York Volunteers, 225 men;

in rear of Fort Meikel, Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, 152 men; Fort Rice, Thirty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, 289 men; in rear of Fort Rice, Thirty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, 342 men; Fort Sedgwick, Seventh Rhode Island Volunteers and Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, 717 men; in rear of Fort Sedgwick, Thirty-ninth New Jersey Volunteers, 815 men; Fort Davis, Seventeenth Vermont Volunteers, Thirty-first Maine Volunteers, and Fifty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteers, 692 men; between Forts Davis and Hays, One hundred and seventy-ninth New York Volunteers and One hundred and eighty-sixth New York Volunteers, 965 men; Fort Hays, Ninth New Hampshire Volunteers and Thirty-second Maine Volunteers, 308 men; between Fort Hays and Battery 24, Sixth New Hampshire Volunteers and Second Maryland Volunteers, 268 men; Battery 24, Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers, 193 men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
November 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you draw in all your pickets (except those from the left of the army to the Halifax road), concentrate all your available force, and make a reconnaissance in the direction of Dinwiddie Court-House, with a view of ascertaining whether any portion of Hampton's cavalry has gone south, as reported; also, to ascertain if the enemy are building a railroad from Stony Creek through Dinwiddie, and if so, you will destroy it.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
November 30, 1864.

This command will move at 3.30 a. m. to-morrow, in the following order: First, Second Brigade; second, First Brigade; third, ambulances; fourth, Third Brigade. The command will follow the road leading via McCann's to Lee's Mill, thence to plank road, and southward on that road to the road leading to Stony Creek. A small camp guard will be left in regimental camp. Each battery will take with it two caissons. The other caissons will be parked in rear of the line of camps. No wagons or other vehicles will be allowed, save the proper number of ambulances. The usual amount of ammunition will be carried by each trooper.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
November 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. E. DAVIES,
Commanding First Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you concentrate your entire brigade at your camps, relieving all your pickets, save those covering the telegraph and stage roads; have your brigade in readiness to move to-morrow at 4 a. m. Your regiments will carry one day's forage and their rations. Your command will return to its present camps.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
November 30, 1864.

Capt. A. H. BIBBER,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

CAPTAIN: I herewith forward prisoner captured from a scouting party of the enemy by a detachment under command of Maj. J. E. Doran, Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry. I also report the recapture of four horses, which were captured from the Twenty-fourth New York on the 27th instant while on picket, and three of the enemy's. Two of the enemy were killed and one wounded. A pocketbook, containing some papers and money, was taken from the prisoner by Lieutenant Tucker, Twenty-fourth New York Cavalry, who reports that the same were lost coming into camp. This is being investigated. The prisoner says that intelligence has been received by the enemy of the capture and burning of the town of Macon, Ga., by General Sherman.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
November 30, 1864.

Col. J. IRVIN GREGG,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you at once relieve all your pickets, leave one squadron on the Jerusalem plank road, and concentrate your command and hold it in readiness to move to-morrow morning at 3.30. Your regiments will be supplied with one day's forage and their rations. The squadron on the plank road will be in readiness to move with the command. Your brigade will return to its present camp to-morrow evening.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
November 30, 1864.

Col. C. H. SMITH,
Commanding Third Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding directs that you at once relieve all your pickets, except those from the left of the army to Halifax road,

and have your brigade in readiness to move to-morrow at 4 a. m. Your regiments will be supplied with one days' forage and their rations. Your brigade will return to its present camp.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 30, 1864—4.30 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I have files of Augusta and Savannah papers sent me by Colonel Mulford, from which I gather that Bragg has gone to Georgia, taking with him what I judge to be most of the forces from about Wilmington. It is therefore important that Weitzel should get off during his absence, and if successful in effecting a landing, he may, by a bold dash, also succeed in capturing Wilmington. Make all the arrangements for his departure, so that the Navy will not be detained one moment for the Army. Did you order Palmer to make move proposed yesterday? It is important that he should do so without delay.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, November 30, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
Commanding Armies of the United States:

GENERAL: Orders will go down to-morrow to General Palmer to make the move of which we spoke. I have been busy all day endeavoring to ascertain the truth as to the movement of troops from here. Deserters say that Field's, Hoke's, and Kershaw's divisions have all moved, each going a different way but gone toward Petersburg. My signal officer reports a train of six cars loaded with troops, and six open cars loaded with artillery, passing from Petersburg toward Richmond to-day. I am inclined to believe that the movement is of Hoke's division to Petersburg only, because of a difficulty and a very angry discussion which has sprung up between Hoke and Field in regard to their failure at Battery Harrison on the 30th of September last, which appeared in the Richmond papers, and that Kershaw is to take Hoke's place here. We have had literally no deserters for two days. We have nearly perfected the plan of organization of the corps. With your leave I will be down in the morning for the necessary orders. I have spared everything I can from the hospital and other boats in the department to move troops. The Navy shall not wait for me a single hour, and we will make the push if it is possible.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 30, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I shall be at headquarters to-morrow, and will be glad to see you here.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *November 30, 1864—8 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Have you had any information through deserters to know whether Kershaw's or Field's division has gone south?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., November 30, 1864—11.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

Two deserters just in from Hoke's division say there is no movement of that division. They also say that Field is on our right, where he has been. They further say it is Heth's division which has gone from Petersburg. Have furnished this information to Colonel Sharpe.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, November 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, Armies Operating Against Richmond:

I have the honor to request of the lieutenant-general commanding the Armies of the United States that the following changes may be made in the organization of the Army of the James: It is proposed that the Eighteenth and Tenth Corps be discontinued; that the white infantry troops of the Eighteenth and Tenth Corps, now with the Army of the James, be consolidated under the direction of the major-general commanding the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, and that they constitute a new corps, to be called the Twenty-fourth Corps; that the colored troops of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina be organized into a new corps, to be called the Twenty-fifth Corps; that the artillery of the Eighteenth Corps be transferred to the Twenty-fourth Corps, and that the artillery of the Tenth Corps be transferred to the Twenty-fifth Corps; the present Eighteenth Corps staff to be transferred to the Twenty-fourth Corps, and the present Tenth Corps staff to be transferred to the Twenty-fifth Corps; that Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord may be assigned to the command of the Twenty-fourth Corps, and Maj. Gen. G. Weitzel may be assigned to the Twenty-fifth Corps.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

(Copy to General L. Thomas, Adjutant-General, December 1.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, November 30, 1864.

Rear-Admiral PORTER,
Comdg. North Atlantic Blockading Squadron, James River:

ADMIRAL: Brigadier-General Wild will hand you this note and brings also orders to General Palmer about the matter of which we

were speaking. Please give him an order, to be transmitted through him to the commander of your naval forces in the Sound, to co-operate in the fullest extent with General Palmer and to move with all promptness and celerity. General Wild will show you the orders, which are unsealed for that purpose, which he takes to General Palmer. If anything occurs to you which I have not covered in my instructions, please telegraph me, and I will reach General Wild by telegraph before he leaves Fort Monroe.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
November 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer on the Cobb's Hill signal tower reports that at 3.30 p. m. "a train of five loaded cars loaded with troops, and six open cars, with six pieces of artillery, passed Port Walthall Junction, going toward Richmond."

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

CAMP TWENTY-SECOND U. S. COLORED TROOPS,
In the Field, Va., November 30, 1864.

Capt. ISRAEL R. SEALY,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Dept. of Va. and N. C., in the Field, Va.:

SIR: We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 24th instant directing us to state fully, in writing, the grounds of complaint against Colonel Kiddoo. In compliance with this request we beg leave to state that our complaint against Colonel Kiddoo is based upon that most disgraceful rout the Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops sustained on the evening of the 27th ultimo. May we be allowed here to add that, as for the mere matter of taking the redoubt on which we charged, there never was a task, in our opinion, easier to be accomplished, nor did men ever come up better to their work than our men did at that time, considering their exhausted condition. Passing by what does in fact not concern us, whether it was intended by those high in command that the fort in question should be taken, or whether it was tenable after it was taken, we, from our subordinate standpoint, can ascribe our failure only to Colonel Kiddoo's management, the cause of which, we are impressed, was his being under the influence of liquor. We ask the indulgence of the major-general commanding to lend us his ear while we state a few disconnected instances, which, among others, created that impression. Early in the morning of October 26 our regiment left its place in the trenches and bivouacked a short distance in the rear. During this day Colonel Kiddoo was not with the regiment. Late in the afternoon he approached, in undress, a group of officers of the Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops, sitting around a camp-fire, asking, "What regiment is this?" And when answered, "The

Twenty-second," his next inquiry was, "Where are my headquarters?" The opinion of the officers thus addressed was at the time that Colonel Kiddoo did not know where he was nor recognize his inferior officers. This peculiar state of his mind appeared to continue during the next day, reaching its climax in the charge late in the afternoon, which ended so disgracefully.

Some time in the afternoon of the 27th ultimo, the brigade halted and formed in column by division near the Williamsburg road. Here, preparatory to going into action, we equalized companies, by Colonel Kiddoo's command. After changing direction to the right, and marching in column by companies for some distance, we deployed, formed line of battle, advanced in line of battle, and by a few changes in the direction we arrived in a wood road, when Colonel Kiddoo gave the command, "By the left flank, double-quick, march." During our progress in that direction, Colonel Kiddoo, going from the right to the left of the battalion, spoke to several company commanders to the effect that "this is all right, but contrary to orders. I take the responsibility myself. In front of us is the last fort on the right of Richmond, and nobody in it to oppose us. This is the sublimest thing in nature; this is the sublimest day of my life. We will all be in Richmond to-night," &c. The left of the battalion now reached a fork in the road, and, under Colonel Kiddoo's direction, tried first one, then the other, and lastly the first branch of the road again, the whole battalion keeping up the double-quick step. Colonel Holman, now coming up to Colonel Kiddoo near the left of the regiment, remonstrated with the latter and more persuaded than ordered him to desist going in that direction. After some gesticulating Colonel Kiddoo submitted to Colonel Holman's order to move to the right, and to accomplish this, gave the command to countermarch the battalion. While this movement was under execution, the whole of the left company having countermarched, he ordered the whole battalion to "right about, double-quick, march." The companies executed the command successively and as soon as the several commanders found out what was wanted, the left company meanwhile countermarching back and trying to gain the lost distance. During this double-quick to the right, Colonel Kiddoo, riding along the line toward the right, expatiated on this change of direction in the following terms: "This is none of my orders; I protested against it. We will all be bagged here. The whole of the battalion will be cut up," &c., within the hearing of officers and enlisted men. As was to be expected, the several companies, and the files in the same, lost considerable distance in executing these strange tactics in face of the enemy. When Colonel Kiddoo next arrived at the right of the battalion, and while the latter was marching obliquely to the enemy's line of works, he gave to the right company the command: "By the left flank; go on." The right of the battalion being comparatively on open ground charged across it, and, being unsupported, laid down of their own accord, close to the enemy's line, while the center and left of the battalion struggled through about 150 yards of thick underbrush, emerging in the open space almost in single file, or in groups made up of members of different companies, Colonel Kiddoo, in the meantime, exhorting the men to go on, for God's sake, promising every one a brigadier-general's commission. The attack failing by thus being deplorably managed, the men fell back in confusion, but in no great haste, most of them being so exhausted and worried as to be unable to double-quick back to the shelter of the woods from whence they came.

These incidents created in the mind of the undersigned the impression that the regiment was put through a number of most strange and harassing maneuvers and evolutions solely by Colonel Kiddoo's orders, and that we finally failed in taking the enemy's works through our colonel's mismanagement; and the most charitable conclusion we can come to is, that, being under the influence of liquor, what he gained in courage as the day wore on and evening set in to all appearances he certainly lost at an increased ratio in judgment and discretion. We have been thus, in obedience to your request, explicit in giving details and incidents, which though they may be considered trifles in themselves, when taken in connection with the whole day's experience, become as straws floating with the wind, and created with staff officers, whose duties brought them in contact with Colonel Kiddoo during that day, the same impression they did with the undersigned; and now most respectfully submit our statement, and with it our complaint to be judged upon its own merits.

In conclusion, we beg you to assure the major-general commanding that it is with a feeling akin to regret, sorrow, and personal mortification that we approached this subject, and that nothing short of a stern duty, which we owe to a common cause, the men under our charge, and to the honor of our regiment, could have ever prompted us to do so. It may not be amiss to state here, that Captain McKey's signature is missing under this communication, he being one of the signers of the first paper, owing to his being on leave of absence. Conscious that we have, mortifying though it was, done or attempted nothing in preferring this complaint but what we hold to be our duty, and offering to the major-general commanding our heartfelt thanks for the kind attention shown to our supposed grievances, we have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

A. P. MOREY,
Captain, Twenty-second Colored Troops.
ARTHUR MARKS,
Captain, Twenty-second Colored Troops.
LEVI GRAYBILL,
Captain, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops.
WM. W. BURKE,
Captain, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops.
C. F. EICHACKER,
Captain, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops.
WM. D. MILLIKEN,
First Lieutenant, Twenty-second U. S. Colored Troops.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, November 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,
Commanding District of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Information has got to me that the enemy in small force—less than 500 men—are fortifying Rainbow Bluff, twenty miles up the Roanoke above Plymouth. Admiral Porter suggests, upon the information that he has from the naval officer commanding those waters, that a conjunct expedition of the Navy and Army would easily capture that point and hold it, and that it is of very great importance that we should do so. Therefore, I propose that you shall make the

attempt. Take all the forces that can be spared in your district which you may deem necessary, and move with great promptness while the enemy are engaged with Sherman in Georgia and with us here, so that you need not fear re-enforcements. Perhaps, after seizing that point, you might, by a bold push, reach the ram at Halifax. I would suggest that you could transport your troops and supplies within six miles, and land them below the bluff and take the enemy in the rear, but matters of detail must be left to your discretion. What I do require is promptness of action, and I rest largely on that. I rest also largely upon your energy and zeal. You had better give out that your expedition is a movement up the Chowan upon Weldon. You are surrounded by spies, and the moment you start any movement conjecture will be busy as to its direction. Now, if you let it be confidentially understood by a sufficient number of persons that you are going up the Chowan, that will be sure to get to the enemy. Brigadier-General Wild, who does me the favor to take this to you, is also charged with some confidential matters which he will state to you, and in which I trust you will aid him. As soon as this expedition is over, I propose to send you a battalion of the Sixteenth New York Heavy Artillery as portion of your garrison at New Berne, and take the Fifteenth Connecticut into the field with me, unless you can state objections which do not now occur to me.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

[NOVEMBER 30, 1864.—For the "effective strength" of the U. S. forces operating against Richmond, see Part I, p. 40.]

Abstract from return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of November, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.			
General headquarters	40	.....	40	45	.....
Provost Guard (Patrick)	50	1,249	1,714	2,509	.....
Engineer Brigade (Benham)	76	3,781	4,519	5,147	.....
Battalion U. S. Engineers (Harwood)	7	182	222	277	.....
Artillery (Hunt)	36	1,414	1,564	1,798	60
Guards and Orderlies (Batchelder)	1	32	93	99	.....
Signal Corps (Fisher)	13	126	159	182	.....
Second Army Corps (Humphreys)	826	17,545	23,582	47,960	68
Fifth Army Corps (Warren)	746	16,195	22,066	33,523	56
Ninth Army Corps (Parke)	725	15,316	19,981	31,670	36
Second Cavalry Division (Gregg)	195	5,994	7,692	13,765	8
Total	2,715	61,834	81,632	136,975	228

Abstract from returns of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of November, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	23	.....	23	26	.....	.....
Signal Corps (Norton)	21	123	144	166	.....	.....
Naval Brigade (Graham)	22	698	1,075	1,272	.....	.....
1st New York Engineers (Serrell)	8	199	507	874	.....	.....
Tenth Army Corps (Terry)	497	14,479	16,900	28,344	.....	54
Eighteenth Army Corps (Weitzel)	420	13,304	16,132	30,992	.....	64
Cavalry Division (Kautz)	94	2,716	3,349	5,283	.....	2
District of Eastern Virginia (Shepley)	114	3,399	4,545	10,787	124	12
District of North Carolina (Palmer)	242	6,205	8,891	11,681	45	68
Separate Brigade* (Carr)	43	1,066	1,270	1,751	.....	6
Defenses of Bermuda Hundred (Graham)	169	5,011	6,399	10,705	.....	.....
Grand total	1,653	47,200	59,235	101,881	169	206
Grand total according to department return	1,640	46,912	58,160	100,609	251	223

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 1, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

There are no Veteran Reserves available; on the contrary, the force is so reduced by expiration of enlistments that other troops are called for to guard prisoners of war and drafted men.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 1, 1864.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

Gregg's cavalry was sent south this morning on a reconnaissance, more particularly to discover if the enemy were moving troops south. The following dispatch is just received in relation to it:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 1, 1864—8 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have just heard from Gregg. His dispatch is dated 3.45 p. m. He reports having captured Stony Creek Station, which was defended by infantry and cavalry in works with artillery. He captured two pieces of artillery, but had no means of bringing them off, so spiked them and destroyed the carriages. He has 190 prisoners, eight wagons, and thirty mules. Burned the depot, with 3,000 sacks of corn, 500 bales of hay, a train of cars, large amount of bacon, clothing, ammunition, and other Government stores. Destroyed all the shops and public buildings. The Second Brigade, Colonel Gregg commanding, had the advance, and is reported as most gallantly carrying the enemy's position. General Gregg is now returning to camp. No information could be obtained of the passing of any force southward, either cavalry or infantry. The bed of the branch road from Stony Creek has been graded, but no rails laid. At Duval Station, south of Stony Creek, much property was destroyed, and a

* Embraces troops at Harrison's Landing and Forts Pocahontas and Powhatan.

large amount of railroad iron found, which an effort was made to destroy by burning. When the staff officer who brought the dispatch left, the enemy were showing signs of having concentrated and were following, but he thinks General Gregg will be in camp by midnight.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 1, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have nothing of importance to report, beyond the disgraceful fact that sixteen men of the Sixty-first New York Volunteers, First Division, Second Corps, deserted to the enemy last night from the picket-line.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORT MONROE, *December 1, 1864—1.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I will be up on the 2d of December. Would come up sooner, but my machinery is apart. If you are coming down will wait here.

D. D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 1, 1864.*

Admiral D. D. PORTER,
Fort Monroe:

I will be at home to-morrow.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following is the list of deserters forwarded to-day: One from Sixty-first Virginia, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Twenty-third South Carolina, Wallace's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Fortieth Virginia, Walker's brigade, Heth's division; one from Eighteenth North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division. No movements up to last evening. No late information from Sherman. Deserter from Eighteenth North Carolina, Lane's brigade, heard it rumored that Mahone's division were under marching orders with three days' rations. Deserter from Sixty-first Virginia, of that division, knows nothing about it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CITY POINT, *December 1, 1864.*

JOHN C. BABCOCK, *Headquarters Army of the Potomac:*

Agent left Richmond yesterday afternoon, up to which time no troops had been sent south and no military movement whatever had taken place. There was constant expectation of an attack from us. Our friends have no news from Georgia other than that contained in the newspapers, which puts Sherman's advance three days ago at Waynesborough, on the railroad from Augusta to Millen.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

(Same to Lieutenant Davenport, General Butler's staff.)

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE, *Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: The Church road station reports:

Between the hours of 11 a. m. and 12 m. three detachments of the enemy's infantry, about 200 in each, passed a point 20 degrees west of north, moving westward on the Boydton plank road. A small party at work upon the fortifications near Boisseau property. Rather more than the usual number of wagons seen moving in both directions upon the Boydton plank road.

The other stations report all quiet and no changes. The following intercepted messages are forwarded, with the belief that they are spurious:

I am informed that General S. is going to join Beauregard. I am anxious to go with him, and he is willing to take me if you will give your consent.

R.,
Sergeant.

Have received answer to dispatch to Major M. He is willing to assign me to your command, with the consent of Secretary of War. The papers have been forwarded for his approval.

R.,
Sergeant.

They were taken from station on left bank of the Appomattox.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
December 1, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

The following message has been received:

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION—10 a. m.

Captain DAVIS:

During last night the enemy have thrown up a new line of rifle-pits, about 200 yards in advance of their old line and extending from their immediate front of the Boisseau property about a half mile through an open field to our right and nearly parallel to their old line of pits. The new pits are occupied this a. m.

SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

Respectfully,

CLARKE,
Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 1, 1864—10 a. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER:

Working parties near lead-works and large fort. No movements or changes observed.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
December 1, 1864—5 p. m.

Capt. C. L. DAVIS:

No change observed in the enemy's lines on this front this day. A working party seen at work strengthening works east of lead-works. A few wagons seen moving east and west on Boydton plank road. All quiet in the enemy's camps.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 425. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 1, 1864.

* * * * * * *

36. Col. C. H. Morgan, inspector-general Second Army Corps, will report in person without delay to Major-General Hancock, U. S. Volunteers, in this city, for assignment to temporary duty, to take effect from the time of General Hancock's arrival here.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
CHIEF ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
December 1, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. J. G. BARNARD,
Chief Engineer Combined Armies in Virginia:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following report of bridge material, &c., as desired by your communication of the 21st ultimo, viz:

There was brought with the Army of the James on its present campaign in May, bridge train No. 15 (French bateaux), bridge train No. 17 (canvas). These were new trains completely fitted out. The lines of train No. 15 were delivered in coil and cut afterward as needed. Train No. 15 consists of fifty bateaux complete in all their parts, twelve trestles complete, and wagons and harness for the train. Train No. 17 consists of twenty-five canvas boats complete, with wagons. Train No. 15 is at present in use as follows, viz: Fourteen boats in the bridge across the Appomattox at Broadway Landing, and thirty-six boats in the bridge across the James River at Aiken's Landing. Train No. 17 is on board of barge Oregon, near the bridge across the Appomattox River, and owing to the state of the canvas, from its use during the months of September and October, is unfit for further use without new

canvas or repairs to the old. I shall send this train to be stored at Norfolk for the present. The Tenth Army Corps brought with it from the Department of the South the following bridge material, which is now in use by and in charge of the Army of the James, viz: Parts of trains Nos. 7 and 11. These were formerly canvas trains, and while in the Department of the South thirty-three surf-boats were made for use in the trains. Train No. 7 consists of twenty-five canvas boats, without wagons or harness. Train No. 11 consists of thirty-three surf-boats, with wagons and harness for eleven boats. There is also a part of a rubber pontoon train which came from the Department of the South, which is wholly unserviceable, as the boats leak very badly. I transmit herewith Captain Lyon's "account* of pontoon material received, on hand, and expended," which gives all information, except with regard to the material sent to the various bridges from the depot. This latter is shown in the accompanying account of issues to bridges for months of May, June, July, August, September, and October. A great portion of this material is still on hand, such as oils, white lead, rope, &c., but the exact amount cannot be ascertained without getting an account of stock at each of the bridges. The bridge at Deep Bottom, although fully supplied by General Benham at first, has drawn on my depot for material to keep up its efficiency. The expenditures for the bridge across the Appomattox look large, but it must be remembered that the bridge was 875 yards long, the major length requiring bridge material. I am not prepared at present, owing to my many duties, to suggest any changes or give the result of observations to make them more efficient. I shall, whenever I have the opportunity, direct my attention to this subject and submit my remarks to your consideration.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PETER S. MICHIE,
First Lieutenant, U. S. Engineers, Brevet Major, U. S. Army, and Chief Engineer Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 1, 1864—8.30 a. m. (Sent 9 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Gregg will make a movement toward Stony Creek Depot to-day. I wish you would hold your two available infantry divisions in readiness to move in case of emergency.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 1, 1864. (Received 10.40 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Sixteen men of the Sixty-first New York, First Division, deserted from the picket-line before 12 o'clock last night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 1, 1864. (Received 11.15 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes to report in the disposition of the troops of my command since my report of last evening.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 305. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, before Petersburg, Va.,
December 1, 1864.

1. The commanding general Army of the Potomac directs that in view of Brigadier-General Gregg, commanding Second Cavalry Division, having been directed to make a movement toward Stony Creek Depot to-day, the Second and Third Divisions of this corps will be held in readiness to move in case of emergency.

* * * * * * *

6. Surg. A. N. Dougherty is relieved from duty as medical director, Second Army Corps, and is authorized to comply with the instructions received by him in a telegraphic communication of this day's date from the War Department.

7. Surg. J. McNulty is relieved from duty as surgeon-in-chief of the First Division, and is assigned to duty as acting medical director of the corps.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 1, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that at dark on the 29th of November the Eleventh New York Battery, Battery B, First Rhode Island, Battery B, First New Jersey, and the First New Hampshire Battery were relieved from the positions held by them in front of Petersburg by batteries of the Ninth Corps. Pursuant to instructions they were moved to the Peebles house on the morning of the 30th. The Twelfth New York Battery was relieved on the 30th, and arrived soon after. Three batteries had moved with the First Division on the 29th. The artillery was disposed as follows: Fort Fisher, C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery, 4 guns; Fort Welch, Tenth Massachusetts Battery, 6 guns; Fort Gregg, First New Hampshire Battery, 4 guns; Fort Sampson, B, First New Jersey Artillery, 4 guns; Fort Cummings, K, Fourth U. S. Artillery, 4 guns; Fort Emery, Eleventh New York Battery, 4 guns; Fort Siebert, Eleventh New York Battery, 2 guns. B, First Rhode Island, 6 guns, the Twelfth New York Battery, 4 guns, and B, First New Jersey, 2 guns, are in reserve; total, batteries, 8; guns, 40. The following portion of the command were left on the line now held by the

Ninth Corps: F, First Pennsylvania, 6 guns; G, First New York, 6 guns; Third New Jersey Battery, 6 guns; Sixth Maine, 4 guns; batteries, 4; guns, 22. Company C, Fourth New York Artillery, 6 Coehorn mortars.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 199. } HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND CORPS, *December 1, 1864.*

I. The commanding officers of the following-named batteries will hold their commands in readiness for an immediate movement: Eleventh New York Battery, Twelfth New York Battery, Battery B, First Rhode Island Artillery, and First New Hampshire Battery.

II. The commanding officer of Battery B, First New Jersey Artillery, will hold himself in readiness to move three of his guns into Fort Gregg at short notice for the purpose of relieving the First New Hampshire Battery.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 1, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following commanding officers of the garrisons of the forts upon the line of this division and the regiment from which each garrison is furnished: Fort Fisher, 150 men of Twenty-sixth Michigan Volunteers, Maj. N. Church commanding; Fort Welch, 175 men of One hundred and fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Capt. W. A. F. Stockton commanding; Fort Gregg, 75 men of One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Capt. James F. Weaver commanding; Fort Sampson, 75 men of One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Capt. A. A. Rhinehart commanding.

Very respectfully,

N. A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 1, 1864.

General MILES:

The signal officer reports that the enemy advanced their picket-line 100 or 150 yards during the night at a point about northwest from these headquarters and in front of Fort Welch. The corps officer of the day made no report to that effect. Will you ask your division officer of the day (for yesterday) how far this statement of the signal officer is well founded?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTY-FIRST NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS,
December 1, 1864.

Capt. WILLIAM MCALLISTER,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., First Brig., First Div., Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: In answer to your communication of this date, I have the honor to state that yesterday, while examining the ground in my front at about 4 p. m., I saw from the picket-line at the right of house (in my front) a column of rebel infantry marching to the west. I saw perhaps a brigade pass. The pickets at this post told me that the enemy's troops had been moving past this point for an hour. The pickets also told me that the enemy had left their camp on this front, striking tents that morning.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
GEO. W. SCOTT,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 1, 1864.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: After you have had the ground in front examined carefully, with a view to encamping two of your brigades comfortably, reference being had in the ground assigned them as to its character as a defensible position in connection with your right near Fort Cummings, I wish to see you before the troops are assigned their places.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
December 1, 1864.

Commanders of brigades lying near the intrenchments are charged with the preservation of the intrenchments, abatis, and slashing between Forts Cummings, Emery, and Siebert.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:
J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 1, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual occurred in my front yesterday or during the night. Sharp picket-firing, continuing all night, was heard to the right of this corps. Deserters from the following regiments were received and forwarded: Three from Thirty-third North Carolina, two from Eleventh Alabama, one from Sixth Virginia, one from Nineteenth Mississippi.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 1, 1864—8 p. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The following just received is forwarded for the information of the major-general commanding:

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 1, 1864.

Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Finegan's (Florida) brigade has been removed from my front. A deserter assigned as a reason the large number of desertions, some thirty-four having come into my lines since November 14. The enemy's line opposite my center has been still further retired, but not at other points, and from my observations to-day I think it is for the purpose of straightening it. The Richmond Grays are in my front. They will hold no communication whatever with our men, and are shy of exposing themselves.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 1, 1864. (Received 11.40 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual has transpired along our lines. Picket-firing continues through the night, but this a. m. all is quiet. Some portions of the line are in bad order and need repairing. This will be attended to as early as practicable. Two deserters, one from the Twenty-third South Carolina, one from Thirty-fourth Virginia, have been reported to these headquarters.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Jerusalem Plank Road, December 1, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have captured Stony Creek Station. The place was defended by infantry and cavalry, with artillery in strong works. I have 190 prisoners, 8 wagons, and 30 mules; burned the depot, about 3,000 sacks corn, 500 bales hay, a train of cars, large quantity of bacon, Government clothing, ammunition, and other stores. Captured two pieces of artillery; burned all the shops and public buildings. Colonel Gregg's (Second) brigade was in advance and took the station, which was most gallantly accomplished. I am now returning to my camps; my loss is very small.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 1, 1864.

Maj. B. F. TUCKER,
Commanding Dismounted Camp, Second Cavalry Division:

MAJOR: The general commanding directs me to inform you that the order assigning you to duty as commander of Dismounted Camp gives you command of all officers and men of this division there on duty. You will continue to exercise such command. You will receive your orders from these headquarters, and your subordinates on duty in the Dismounted Camp, in all its departments, will receive their orders from you. The ordnance officer of your camp, and no other officer there, is subject to the orders of the special inspector of cavalry.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, December 1, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding, &c., City Point, Va.:

GENERAL: The Secretary of War directs me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, requesting that the Fifty-fifth Massachusetts Colored Regiment be sent to you from Hilton Head if their services were not necessary, and in reply to inform you that the chief of staff reports that no troops can be drawn from Hilton Head at the present time.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, *December 1, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Telegram received. One hundred tons mining powder was sent from New York and Boston between the 24th and last of November to Captain Edson, at Fortress Monroe, who is ordered to hold the same subject to your order. Fifty tons will leave New York in a day or two.

A. B. DYER,
Chief of Ordnance.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 1, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer on Cobb's Hill signal tower reports that at 3 p. m. a train containing four platform cars loaded with artillery passed Port Walthall Junction going toward Richmond.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Capt. and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Virginia and North Carolina.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 2, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The provost-marshal reports 170 prisoners as received from General Gregg, including seven commissioned officers, among them Major Fitzhugh, of Hampton's staff, in charge of construction party engaged in building branch railroad. This number of prisoners is twenty less than Gregg reported last night, though it is not certain all have yet come in, as I have no report this morning from General Gregg. I propose visiting your headquarters during the course of the day unless you are going to be absent.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 2, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I shall be at headquarters all day. Admiral Porter will be here also.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 2, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
City Point:

The chief signal officer has sent in the following dispatch: "Perfect quiet prevails along our lines."

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: One hundred and sixty-three privates and seven commissioned officers, prisoners of war, have been forwarded from the Cavalry Corps this a. m., taken in late raid to Stony Creek. They represent every regiment in W. H. F. Lee's division (Chambliss', Dearing's, and Barringer's brigades), also every regiment of Dunovant's brigade, and the Jeff. Davis, Phillips, and Cobb's Legions of Young's brigade, Butler's division. Maj. Norman R. Fitzhugh, of General Hampton's staff, was among the captured. He was in charge of the construction party working on the new railroad. No information indicating any movement of troops south, either cavalry or infantry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following deserters received to-day: Six from the Eighth, Ninth, and Eleventh Florida, Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division; one from the Thirty-fourth Virginia, Wise's brigade, Johnson's division; two from the Twenty-third South Carolina, Wallace's brigade, Johnson's division; one from the Sixth South Carolina Cavalry, Dunovant's brigade. No important information obtained. No movements up to last evening. Deserter from Sixth South Carolina Cavalry states that about ten days ago some 1,200 or 1,500 dismounted cavalry went to Georgia to act as infantry; that General Young went with them; were volunteers from the different regiments in Hampton's command. No other cavalry has gone from here. No further news from Sherman.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 2, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward for the information of the commanding general the following reports:

FRIEND'S HOUSE, *December 2, 1864.*

The enemy opened with mortar from four-gun battery. All quiet.

AVERY HOUSE, *December 2, 1864.*

A small working party is engaged in crater and to the right and left of it. All quiet.

PLANK ROAD STATION, *December 2, 1864.*

No change observed and all quiet.

The following message was intercepted from the enemy's signal station.

Colonel BRENT:

Last night the enemy attacked in force in front of Fort Dantzler, but were repulsed with heavy loss. Our loss was slight.

PICKETT,
General.

(Same to A. B.)

The station at the Walthall house reports that, owing to the fog, no observations can be made this a. m.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 2, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The plank road station reports about 300 infantry moved from woods a little to the left of lead-works and disappeared in vicinity of large fort west of Weldon railroad. Church road station reports three detachments, several hundred in each, going westward upon the Boydton plank road.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 2, 1864—3.40 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

There is a column of the enemy's infantry, preceded by twenty-seven ambulances and eight wagons, moving in direction of Petersburg on the Cox road. The column was in light marching order; marched well closed; displayed eleven colors and was thirty minutes in passing a point 30 degrees west of north from this station.

VAN B. SLEEPER,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 2, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant Signal Corps, Army of the Potomac:

The enemy are practicing all the p. m. with new mortars. No change.

JORDAN.

Enemy has three mortars in position on Cemetery Hill from which they shelled our camps in rear and right of Battery Morton. Morton replied. Enemy has thrown up a rifle-pit, beginning at a work between front and rear line to left of lead-works and running to rear line, facing northeast. All quiet.

JANSEN.

At 10 a. m. about 300 infantry moved from works about 100 yards left of lead-works and disappeared in vicinity of large fort. Could not tell where they went.

CAROTHERS.

All quiet in this front this p. m. I think the message forwarded at 10.25 a. m. was practice between the stations. The following was intercepted:

"STEUART'S—2 p. m.

"No change has been observed since last report. The enemy's artillery opened on our lines at 10 a. m. and have been firing rapidly since. Our guns replied immediately. The shooting was as close as possible.

"R.,
"*At C.*"

HOLMAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 141. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, *City Point, Va., December 2, 1864.*

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II. Col. George H. Sharpe, One hundred and twentieth Regiment New York Volunteers, is announced as assistant provost-marshal-general, Armies operating against Richmond, and will report to Brig. Gen. M. R. Patrick, provost-marshal-general, for duty.

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By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 2, 1864—8 a. m.

CORPS COMMANDERS:

General Gregg reports that yesterday he captured and destroyed Stony Creek Station, taking 190 prisoners and 2 pieces of artillery—the latter, as they could not be brought away, were spiked and otherwise injured—8 wagons, 30 mules; burned 3,000 sacks of corn, 500 bales of hay, a train of cars, and large quantities of bacon, ammunition, clothing, and other Government stores.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 2, 1864. (Received 10.55 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

Nothing unusual transpired on my front during the last twenty-four hours. The pickets of the Third Brigade, Third Division, that were left in front of the intrenchments on the right, on the evening of the 29th ultimo, joined their brigade yesterday. Casualties in the command yesterday, one enlisted man wounded.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 2, 1864. (Received 11.51 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The rear picket line of the Second Corps was established yesterday, so as to pass by the Claypole house, cross the Vaughan road near McDowell's (Mrs. Davis' on some maps); thence past Colonel Wyatt's to the Weldon railroad. That part of the line from McDowell's to the railroad will be withdrawn a little to-day and modified in other respects.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 2, 1864. (Received 10 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have only this evening been notified that ten men from the Fifth New Hampshire, one from the One hundred and eighty-third Pennsylvania, and one from the Seventh New York Volunteers, deserted to the enemy last night. They were on picket on the line of the Second Brigade, First Division.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 306. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, before Petersburg, Va., December 2, 1864.

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2. The Fourth Regiment New York Heavy Artillery, now attached to the First Brigade, First Division, is hereby transferred to the Fourth Brigade of that division, with the object of equalizing the numbers in those commands.

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By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
December 2, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the Third Brigade of this division was placed outside the lines, with the left resting on the Vaughan road. No other change has taken place in the lines of this division, nor has anything of note occurred since my last report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 2, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in front of this corps yesterday and last night. One deserter from Sixty-first Virginia was received and sent up.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 2, 1864—5.15 p. m. (Sent 5.35 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The following dispatch* has been received from Major-General Butler. The commanding general directs that every man belonging to the division of colored troops recently transferred to the Army of the James be sent without delay to that army. This army must furnish its own details of every description, and no enlisted man belonging to another army can be retained here without a positive disobedience of orders. Please answer.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
December 2, 1864. (Received 7.25 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch received, together with copy of dispatch from General Butler. Steps have been taken to have the men belonging to colored division sent with the division. This change in the details could not be made at once, particularly as this corps was moved immediately on the arrival of the six new regiments. In reference to the subject of details I would respectfully state that there is now with that division a number of men detailed from the other two divisions of this corps, serving as clerks, commissary sergeants, &c. I would respectfully have Major-General Butler's attention called to this fact, and request that these be returned at once, since he is disposed to make complaint.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 2, 1864—2 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I send to the provost-marshal a deserter named M. Carter, Sixth South Carolina Cavalry, who states that about 1,500 dismounted cavalry, under General Young, have been sent South. Those went last week and the week before.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Commanding Second Division.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 2, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Has Colonel Potter been sent to the Army of the Potomac? I do not care to have him go, but General Meade is desirous of knowing if he is to go or not, in order that he may know whether to assign a commander to the troops you may send to him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See p. 782.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 2, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Colonel Potter has been assigned to the command of a brigade in the Eighteenth Corps, and I would not like to spare him if you do not object to the assignment.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 2, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I understand that Pollard, the Southern historian, is at Fortress Monroe, paroled and going about the wharf and elsewhere with freedom. The imprudence of many of our officers in telling all they know to every one makes this objectionable, particularly if he is to be exchanged. I would suggest close confinement for him until the time comes for exchanging. I would also suggest that if he is exchanged, Richardson and Browne, two correspondents that were captured running the Vicksburg blockade, be demanded for him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 2, 1864—9.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I will attend to the matter of Mr. Pollard. I did not know that he was at large. He is not to be exchanged, unless Richardson and Browne are given up.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 2, 1864. (Received 1.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Large numbers of the colored division, Ninth Corps, were on detached or detailed duty in that corps, and have not been sent with their regiments. I took special pains to have all the detailed men of the Provisional Brigade sent to you. Please order all the men on duty in your army belonging to the Army of the James sent here, especially of the colored division. You will have to see to it that the order is enforced, as it is difficult to get detailed men always.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 2, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER CONFEDERATE FORCES,
Opposite Fort Burnham:

The flag of truce covers Lieutenant De Kay of my staff, the bearer, and Monsieur Paul, the consul of France at Richmond, who desires to

visit Richmond for the purpose of arranging for the comfort and care of the French subjects there and to return to his consulate, which he lately left. He assures me that the baggage he has with him are matters for his personal convenience and comfort. We will receive at the point where this flag is received any communication which may be necessary to be sent from the French consul, either to these headquarters or to his minister at Washington.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
December 2, 1864—1.30 p. m.

General J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer at Crow's Nest tower reports that the enemy seem to be getting ready to open fire on Fort Brady with all their guns at Cox's Ferry, and to the right and left of it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

I have notified General Ord.

J. W. T[URNER].

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 158. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. CAROLINA, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 2, 1864.

The following-named officers are hereby assigned to duty according to their brevet rank, subject to the approval of the President, as follows:

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry, U. S. Volunteers, to command the First Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. Jourdan, U. S. Volunteers (colonel One hundred and fifty-eighth New York Volunteers), to command the Fourth Brigade, First Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. N. M. Curtis, U. S. Volunteers (colonel One hundred and forty-second New York Volunteers), to command the First Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. S. A. Duncan, U. S. Volunteers (colonel Fourth U. S. Colored Troops), to command the Second Brigade, First Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. A. G. Draper, U. S. Volunteers (colonel Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops) to command the First Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. B. C. Ludlow, U. S. Volunteers, to command the Cavalry Brigade, Twenty-fifty Corps.

Bvt. Maj. P. S. Michie, U. S. Corps of Engineers, to be chief engineer of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT BRADY, VA., *December 2, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: Have the honor to report that the enemy opened on us suddenly and rapidly about 11 a. m. from their heavy batteries. No provocation was given on our part. We had the last shot. Their pickets opened at the same time, but one mortar shell seemed to quiet them. We suffered no damage, excepting one man slightly hurt by a columbiad shell bursting on the parapet near No. 11 100-pounder, knocking out the revetment he was standing near, on detachment. He was considerably jarred.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
December 2, 1864.

In case of firing from the enemy, division commanders will take measures to keep their men under shelter as much as possible.

By command of Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S, *December 2, 1864.*
(Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The firing on my front was occasioned by the enemy opening on a working party in one of the advanced works, which I am strengthening. It has entirely ceased.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, December 3, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE:

The Sixth Corps will probably begin to arrive here to-night or in the morning. As soon as it does get here, I want you to move with the Second and about two divisions of the Fifth Corps down the Weldon road, destroying it as far to the south as possible. Four guns to each division, I think, will be of the greatest abundance to take, and six days' rations.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 3, 1864—3 p. m. (Sent 3.15 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I would suggest the relieving the whole of the Fifth Corps by the Sixth on its arrival; then sending the Fifth Corps with one or two divisions of the Second on the expedition proposed. I should myself think one division would be sufficient with the cavalry, as this would

give Warren nearly 25,000 men. My object in making this suggestion is, as Warren ranks Humphreys and would take the command, it is better for him to have his whole corps. Humphreys would not go unless two divisions of his corps are sent.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 3, 1864—5.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

If but one corps goes on the expedition mentioned in my dispatch of this morning I would as soon General Humphreys would command it as any other officer. Thinking, however, it better to take a larger force, I named relieving part of the Fifth Corps because I would sooner trust General Warren in command than General Wright. I think there should be a force of 20,000 infantry, and then all the reserves that can possibly be spared from the lines should be held ready to go after the enemy if he follows. I will write my views more fully before the expedition starts.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following deserters from the enemy are forwarded to-day: Two from Holcombe Legion, Wallace's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Thirty-fourth Virginia, Wise's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Thirty-eighth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division; one from Second North Carolina Cavalry, Barringer's brigade; one from Cobb's Legion, Young's brigade. From them we learn that no troops have left the front of the Army of the Potomac excepting the dismounted cavalry under General Young. No change in the enemy's position. Rumor that Mahone's division had gone to Stony Creek with 1,200 men; no evidence of such a movement. No news of Sherman's movements.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864.

Lieutenant STRYKER, *Adjutant Signal Corps:*

All quiet.

CAROTHERS.

11.40 A. M.

Enemy opened with eight mortars of various caliber. Their fire seemed to be concentrated on Battery 20. One gun replied. No change during the day. All quiet.

JANSEN.

All quiet.

JORDAN.

No change has been observed during the day

HOLMAN.

Sergeant Holman intercepted one or two rebel messages, but they are unimportant, merely a report of the number of trains having passed up and down, and of some infantry seen drilling near Battery A.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 3, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

No change has been observed during the day. The following has been intercepted:

STEUART'S FRONT—11 a. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Steamer just come up the river and stopped at Strahan's lower landing. One company of infantry just passed open space going toward front in Chesterfield. Gun-boat above Port Walthall.

R.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

FRONT OF DUNN'S—2 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Sharpshooting still going on. Negro troops still on this front; forty wagons passed up the river toward Fort Harrison and thirty-one down. At 12 m. 250 infantry passed up the river. Five companies of infantry drilling in rear of Battery A. Enemy still strengthening their works.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

3.35 P. M.

Major P.:

I report there has passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, four trains of cars, nineteen wagons, and thirty cattle. Rear of same battery going toward City Point, two trains of cars and fifteen wagons. The cars had scattering soldiers on them.

W.,
At D.

STEUART'S FRONT—3.40 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

No change noticed since last report. One regiment of infantry just passed open space going to the front in Chesterfield. Forty wagons passed up and thirty-two down the river during the day. The enemy still strengthening their works between Batteries C and D. Nine companies of infantry drilling behind Battery A. Gun-boat in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864—6 p. m.

Major FISHER:

Sergeant Sleeper reports this eve:

No change seen and few wagons on Boydton plank road. A small working party engaged near Boisseau's. General Butler's works seen from this station north 28 degrees east.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864—3 p. m.

Captain THICKSTUN:

A working party of from 250 to 300 men building works northwest by north from Fort Welch. The line upon which they are working is apparently about 300 yards. They are engaged in carrying dirt upon stretchers and pounding it down upon the works. In some places the logs of which the works are constructed can be distinctly seen, not having yet been covered. On the left of this work, and northwest by west, a working party of about forty men at work on what appears to be a fort. Two embrasures have been constructed, and to the right of them can be seen a large gun, mounted en barbette. Due west from Fort Welch, and to the left of buildings on Boisseau property, enemy have erected a fort, and have working party of from twenty to thirty men engaged upon it. The enemy's picket-line is much stronger than yesterday. Some of the same men who were on day before yesterday have not yet been relieved.

RICHARD P. STRONG,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, U. S. Army.

(Copy sent to General S. Williams.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes to report during the last twenty-four hours.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 3, 1864. (Sent 1.40 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch of yesterday, reporting a modification in your picket-line, was laid before the commanding general last evening soon after his return from City Point, and I am instructed to say that the same is approved. General Gregg reports this morning that he finds his cavalry vedettes inside of your picket-line, and the commanding general desires that, in order to avoid confusion, no change be hereafter made in your picket-line without first referring any proposed change to these headquarters. General Gregg has this morning been informed that he can withdraw all the cavalry he has on outpost duty west of the Weldon railroad, and that he will be required to connect with your picket-line where it strikes that road.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the garrisons of the forts upon the line of the First Division of my corps are as follows: Fort Fisher, 150 men of the Twenty-sixth Michigan Volunteers, Major N. Church commanding; Fort Welch, 175 men of the One hundred and fortieth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Capt. W. A. F. Stockton commanding; Fort Gregg, 75 men of the One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Capt. James F. Weaver commanding; Fort Sampson, 75 men of the One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers; Capt. A. A. Rhinehart commanding. Fort Cummings is garrisoned by 175 men of the Seventeenth Maine Volunteers (Third Division), commanded by Capt. William Hobson.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 307. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864.

* * * * * * *

5. Paragraph I, Special Orders, No. 305, current series, from these headquarters, directing the Second and Third Divisions to hold themselves in readiness to move in case of an emergency, is rescinded.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864.

[Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:]

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Lieutenant-General Grant's indorsement on my application to be relieved from "my present command." I desire to call attention to the fact that I did not ask to be relieved from duty with the army. Under the circumstances I should have been better pleased to have served somewhere else, but I yield cheerfully to the general-in-chief's wishes, as expressed in the very handsome indorsement which he has placed upon my application.

I am, general, very respectfully,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: The First Brigade is placed on the line of breast-works extending from Fort Siebert to Fort Cummings; the Third Brigade in the immediate front of the line between Fort Siebert and Fort Emery; the Second Brigade in advance of the Third, with their left resting on the Vaughan road near the Funk house, and with the right in front of Fort Emery. Nothing further of note has occurred since my last report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual has transpired in front of this corps during the past twenty-four hours. The following deserters were received and forwarded: Two from Eighth Florida, two from Ninth Florida, and two from Eleventh Florida.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864—1 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy opened with mortars upon Forts Rice and Sedgwick. Our batteries replied. The enemy used a mortar battery, from which two shells were fired on Sunday for the first time.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have made an inspection of the line of intrenchments from the extreme right to Fort Morton, and I regret to have to report that I find much of the line in very bad condition. In many places the revetment is giving way, and the parapet is crumbling down. The abatis has been broken up in many places, and portions of the line require draining, otherwise these will be untenable after the first heavy rain. Portions of the line from Fort Morton to the left are reported as being in like condition. It is all important that these repairs and improvements be made at once, and as far as I am able they are being attended to; but this is necessarily a very slow operation, owing to the heavy detail required for trench guards and picket

duty. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that the Engineer Brigade be directed to take charge of these repairs, and remain on this duty until the line is put in order.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding Corps.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 3, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the chief engineer, who is desired to afford such assistance in the repair of the works in front of the Ninth Corps as it may be practicable for him to render.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
December 4, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding, commanding detachment Fiftieth New York Volunteer Engineers, has been directed to send two companies of his command to take charge of the repairs within referred to. If he finds additional companies necessary he will furnish them. The corps commander is requested to furnish as large details for working parties to the officers in charge of the companies as he possibly can, as a great deal of additional work is to be performed by the engineer troops.

N. MICHLER,
Major of Engineers, U. S. Army.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the commanding general to say that as the infantry force on the left of our line has been lately relieved, you are now authorized to withdraw all cavalry you have on outpost duty west of the Weldon railroad, and you will have your pickets connect with the left of the pickets of the Second Corps, understood to be at the intersection of the Halifax and Wyatt roads. The change in the picket-line of the Second Corps was made yesterday without any reference of the matter to these headquarters or you would have been notified of the change.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16. HEADQUARTERS SECOND BRIGADE, SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS, *December 3, 1864.*

The colonel commanding takes this opportunity to congratulate and compliment the officers and men of the Second Brigade on their con-

duct in the brilliant affair at Stony Creek Station. The rapidity of your advance and the impetuosity of your attack called forth remarks of approbation from all who witnessed your assault upon the enemy's works, and places the capture of Stony Creek Station amongst the most brilliant cavalry achievements of the war. You have demonstrated to the world your ability to successfully assault well-constructed earth-works with guns in position and fully manned, even when situated behind a wide and deep creek. Your previous history won for you the name of the "fighting brigade." Stony Creek will add to that the name of the "dashing brigade."

By command of Col. J. Irvin Gregg, commanding brigade:

JNO. B. MAITLAND,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 3, 1864—12 m.

Major-General BUTLER:

I was aware, before the receipt of your dispatch yesterday, that there were a number of the colored division on extra duty in the other divisions of the Ninth Corps, also of the fact that General Ferrero carried away with him an equal number of white soldiers on extra duty with his division, as clerks, &c. Major-General Parke immediately ordered the colored soldiers relieved, but a change of position of the corps has created some delay. The men will be sent as soon as they can be replaced. In the meantime I shall rely on your energy for having returned the men belonging to this army carried away by General Ferrero. I am not aware of any other soldiers belonging to the Army of the James being with this army other than those above referred to, but if any are brought to my attention they will be promptly sent back.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 297. WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 3, 1864.

By direction of the President of the United States the following changes will be made in the organization of the Army of the James:

1. The Tenth and Eighteenth Army Corps will be discontinued.

2. The white infantry troops of the Tenth and Eighteenth Army Corps now with the Army of the James will be consolidated under the direction of the major-general commanding the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, and will constitute a new corps, to be called the Twenty-fourth Corps.

3. The colored troops of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina will be organized into a new corps, to be called the Twenty-fifth Corps.

4. The present corps staff and the artillery of the Eighteenth Corps will be transferred to the Twenty-fourth, and the present corps staff and artillery of the Tenth to the Twenty-fifth Corps.

5. Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord is assigned to the command of the Twenty-fourth Corps, and Maj. Gen. G. Weitzel to the command of the Twenty-fifth Corps.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., TENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 3, 1864.

Capt. T. E. LORD,
Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Second Division, Tenth Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: I would respectfully state that the work along the line now held by this brigade (I do not refer to the redoubt) is in need of considerable renovation. The recent rains have filled to overflowing the ditch in front of the parapet on that part of the line between the redoubt and Mill road. Captain Eaton, the engineer officer who constructed the work in question, examined it to-day, at my request, and informed me that the ditch could not be drained without digging for that purpose quite a deep trench extending some distance diagonally to the front; also that if the ditch was not speedily drained the outer portion of the work would necessarily become seriously defective. A portion of it has become slightly so already. As a considerable detail will be required for this purpose, as well as intrenching tools—which latter are difficult to procure—I have thought it best to lay the matter before you before proceeding further.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. PENNYPACKER,
Colonel Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 3, 1864.

Maj. Gen. E. O. C. ORD,
Commanding Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: By direction of the major-general commanding, I have the honor to inclose herewith for your information the order designating the new organization of this army.* The major-general commanding directs that you take the necessary steps at once to carry the order into execution.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully your obedient servant,

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Weitzel.)

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 3, 1864.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES DEVENS,
Commanding First Division, Eighteenth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to inform you that he has directed Col. J. H. Potter, Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers, to report to you with his regiment for duty. He directs that you assign Colonel Potter to the command of the brigade now commanded by Colonel Cullen. The Eleventh Connecticut Volunteers you can assign to the brigade of your command that you think best. The regiment has been ordered to report to you.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See General Orders, No. 297, Adjutant-General's Office, p. 791.

HATCHER'S, *December 3, 1864.*
(Received 6.45 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

The rebels having orders to fire upon our colored troops when on duty and to abstain from it when white troops are on, and it likewise having been reported that their artillery had been heard moving off, I opened with our artillery pretty heavily at 4.30 p. m. The rebels responded from seven guns, making miserable practice and doing no damage. Our practice was very fine, and, as the fusilade was unexpected, must have done considerable damage.

C. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 3, 1864.

General GRAHAM,
Bermuda:

Please withdraw Colonel Bates' brigade—the Twenty-seventh, Thirtieth, and Thirty-ninth Colored Troops—from the line and put it in camp to the rear, subject to Brigadier-General Paine's orders.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HDQRS. DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., December 3, 1864.*

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II. Colonel McClure, Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, is assigned to the command of the Provisional Brigade of this command, relieving Col. J. H. Potter, Twelfth New Hampshire Volunteers, assigned to do duty in the Eighteenth Army Corps.

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By command of Brigadier-General Graham:

R. DALE BENSON,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *December 3, 1864.*

Colonel STEWART,
Comdg. Ninth New Jersey Volunteers, Carolina City:

General Palmer directs me to say that you will proceed to New Berne with every available armed man in your regiment to-morrow morning. The train will be at Carolina City soon after daylight. You will leave a suitable camp guard of non-effective men, under charge of at least one efficient officer. You will bring three days' rations and sixty rounds of ammunition per man. Provide yourself with a good pioneer party of twenty unarmed men. This order is equally applicable to the commanding officer Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, to whom you will send a certified copy at once. The Twenty-seventh Massachusetts will assemble at your camp, and you will have command of both regiments. The Twenty-seventh need not bring

pioneers. The general expects at least 500 men from the two regiments. The train will stop on the lower side of Trent River bridge, and you will march your men aboard the Pilot Boy, lying at Spinola Wharf.

Respectfully, &c.,

C. J. ARMS,
Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 4, 1864.

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch announcing having made the appointments by brevet is received. For the very special mark of confidence and the distinction conferred upon myself in my appointment as major-general in the Regular Army, I am deeply grateful. I trust my earnest efforts in the future to exert my utmost ability in upholding the honor and interests of the country will justify the Government's acknowledgment of its satisfaction with my conduct in the past.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 4, 1864—11.30 a. m. (Sent 11.50 a. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

General Parke yesterday afternoon opened his batteries on some working parties of the enemy in front of Fort Sedgwick. From deserters who came in last night he is informed that the rebel general Gracie was killed by one of our shells. General Gregg reports that about 2 o'clock this morning his outpost at Davenport Church was attacked by a dismounted force of the enemy and driven in, losing 1 killed, 9 wounded, and 5 missing, out of a strength of twenty-five. With the small force of cavalry and great extent of country to watch, it is impossible to provide against these surprises of the advanced posts. General Gregg immediately took measures to re-establish his post and pursue the assailants. With the above exceptions, all else has been quiet. A report was brought by a deserter yesterday that Mahone with 10,000 men had gone to Stony Creek, but no confirmation of this statement has been made, nor any evidence of the withdrawal of so considerable a body of the enemy from their lines.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 4, 1864.*
(Received 1.14 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The advance of the Sixth Corps is now debarking here. You will please send them necessary orders for the front. They are without transportation.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 4, 1864. (Sent 3.40 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. J. A. RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff, Headquarters Lieutenant-General Grant:

I shall direct that the troops of the Sixth Corps, as fast as they arrive, relieve the troops of the Fifth Corps in the position now held by the latter, and that the Fifth Corps, on being relieved, concentrate in some suitable position between the Halifax road and the Jerusalem plank road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 4, 1864.

Captain DAVIS:

During last night the enemy placed two pieces of artillery in position in their works near Boisseau property; one, a brass piece, apparently a 12 pounder howitzer; the other, an iron gun, visible on their works 30 degrees north of west from this station. It is about the same caliber as the others mentioned. No other change noticed in the enemy's line.

VAN B. SLEEPER,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

DECEMBER 4, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant Signal Corps, Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

All quiet.

NICHOLLS.

Been very quiet all day. Nothing new. All quiet.

JANSEN.

All quiet.

CAROTHERS.

All quiet this p. m. The following has been intercepted:

"STEUART'S FRONT—10 a. m.

"Colonel B.:

"All quiet this a. m. in enemy's camp. Sharpshooting and cannonading was continued till dark yesterday. The picket-firing on our front last night.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"DUNN'S—11 a. m.

"Colonel B.:

"All quiet. Two steamers off Strahan's lower landing.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"11.15 A. M.

"Colonel B.:

"A party of men just observed loading the lumber that was unloaded yesterday at Strahan's lower landing.

"R.

("Same to A. B.")

"1.40 P. M.

"Major P.:

"A train and thirteen box-cars, eight of them crowded with soldiers, just passed rear of Battery 5, going toward City Point.

"W.,
"*Sergeant, at B.*"

"2.30 P. M.

"Major P.:

"One train of ten box-cars, tops crowded with troops, just passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left.

"W.,
"*Sergeant, at D.*"

"STEUART'S FRONT—2.45 P. M.

"Colonel B.:

"The new winter quarters have their covering removed. At 10 a. m. 300 infantry were drawn up in line behind Battery C with arms. At 10.10 a. m. a train of twenty ambulances went down the river; also about 300 infantry. At 10 a. m. a steamer went down the James. Some four of the tents to our right of Battery A have been removed. Sharpshooting still continues.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"LATER FROM DUNN'S.—Steamer just passed down the river loaded with troops. The men reported drawn up in line have passed down the Bermuda Hundred road.

"R.,
"*At C.*"

"4.45 P. M.

"Colonel B.:

"Ambulances have passed the rear of enemy's works during the day. One schooner off Strahan's upper landing.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

The above is respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Second Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 4, 1864. (Received 9.10 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of the troops of this command and nothing unusual occurred since last report.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 4, 1864—2.20 p. m. (Received 2.44 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

The general officer of the day reports to me that upon visiting the picket-line at Wyatt's he found a flag of truce there, and that Capt. J. L. McIlhenny, Twelfth New Jersey, Third Brigade, Second Division,

commanding pickets of Third Brigade, had taken the two officers accompanying the flag within the picket-line to the reserve of the pickets. They were at once sent back to the picket-line by the general officer of the day, and are now detained there. They state that they bear a dispatch for General Gregg. Shall it be received and the flag of truce party be allowed to return to their command? Captain McIlhenny is placed under arrest.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 4, 1864—3 p. m. (Sent 3.10 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch reporting the arrival of a flag of truce in front of your picket-line has been received. Under the circumstances stated, the arrest of the officer who received the flag is approved. The dispatch for General Gregg will be received and forwarded to these headquarters. The officers who came in with the flag of truce can return to their commands.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 308. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Peebles' House, before Petersburg, Va., December 4, 1864.

* * * * * * *

3. From and after to-morrow the Second Division of this corps will picket from the Weldon railroad to Arthur's Swamp, having 300 enlisted men on picket.

4. From and after to-morrow the Third Division of this corps will picket from Arthur's Swamp to the left of the First Division, near Fort Cummings, having 500 enlisted men on picket.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 4, 1864—9.15 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report all quiet in my front yesterday and during the night. One deserter from Thirty-eighth North Carolina and two from Holcombe Legion were received and forwarded.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 4, 1864—3.15 p. m. (Sent 3.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general has been informed that the Sixth Army Corps will at once rejoin this army and that one division of the corps has already arrived at City Point. The Sixth Corps will relieve the Fifth Corps in the positions now held by the latter corps, and your divisions will be relieved in their positions consecutively, commencing with Crawford's division on your right, and this division will be relieved to-night or early to-morrow. As fast as your troops are relieved, you will mass them at some suitable position in the rear, between the Halifax road and the Jerusalem plank road. The batteries you have in position will not, however, be removed until further orders. The batteries that are not in line can take their proper places with your troops as they concentrate in the rear.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 171. } HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 4, 1864.

According to instructions received this evening, this division is to be relieved by troops of the Sixth Army Corps, probably to-morrow. Brigade commanders will hold their commands in readiness to move at short notice.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 4, 1864—1.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER [FIRST] DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
City Point:

The commanding general directs that with your troops you relieve Crawford's division, of the Fifth Corps, in the position it holds in the line of this army. If railroad transportation can be furnished your command, you will leave the trains at Parke's Station and report at these headquarters, near that station, for further instructions. If your command has to march from City Point, you will likewise report at these headquarters on arriving in this vicinity. Headquarters are near the Aiken house. Please consult the quartermaster at City Point with reference to transportation.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *December 4, 1864.*
(Received 8.45 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report the arrival of my division—fifty-six hours from Winchester, Va. One brigade has been shipped by rail to Parke's

Station this evening; the other two, and smallest, brigades will be forwarded by rail in 6 and 8 o'clock trains to-morrow morning. My last tri-monthly showed 3,489 enlisted men for duty and 151 officers. Your order to relieve Crawford's division, Fifth Corps, received. Will report in person, taking 8 a. m. train to-morrow.

F. WHEATON,
Brigadier-General, Comdg. First Division, Sixth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH CORPS,
December 4, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 11.25 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Everything remains about the same along our lines. The heavy firing of yesterday was caused by our people endeavoring to put a stop to the enemy's working parties. They were planting a new mortar battery on the Fort Rice and Sedgwick front. Two deserters came in last night and report that General Gracie was killed yesterday by a shell; also a captain and two men.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 4, 1864—10 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I feel great anxiety to see the Wilmington expedition off, both on account of the present fine weather, which we can expect no great continuance of, and because Sherman may now be expected to strike the sea-coast any day, leaving Bragg free to return. I think it advisable for you to notify Admiral Porter and get off without any delay, with or without your powder boat.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 4, 1864.

Admiral PORTER:

When can you be ready with our little experiment? Captain Edson, ordnance officer at fort, will put ordnance stores at your disposal. Time is valuable from the news we get.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

NORFOLK, VA., *December 4, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

We are ready for the 150 tons of powder. Will you give directions to have it bagged ready to go on board?

D. D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 386. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., December 4, 1864.*

1. The Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry is hereby assigned to duty with these headquarters, and Lieutenant-Colonel Washburn, commanding the regiment, will report in person for orders.

* * * * * * *

3. Brig. Gen. Edward Ferrero, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby assigned to the command of the defenses before Bermuda, relieving Brigadier-General Graham, U. S. Volunteers. Brigadier-General Graham, on being relieved, will report for orders at these headquarters for special service.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
December 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff, Army of the James:

GENERAL: We would respectfully request that Special Orders, No. 386, headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, be revoked or changed, in consequence of the number of orderlies assigned to corps headquarters being entirely insufficient for the purpose required. To assign these orderlies to a proper tour of duty there would be but a detail of four on duty each day, and these could not perform the [work] of messengers to the divisions and department headquarters alone, aside from any other necessities requiring the use of orderlies. Beside, the number of orderlies assigned to divisions is entirely out of proportion of those given the corps headquarters, the space to be traveled over by corps orderlies being an average of nine times as great as that of the divisions. This is entirely apart from the necessities arising from sending orderlies to distant points in case of any movements and other uses required at such a time. We would also suggest that there be no change in orderlies or provost-guard until the change of troops arising from the consolidation of the corps is completed.

Very respectfully,

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General, Commanding Corps.
G. WEITZEL,
Major-General, Commanding Twenty-fifth Corps.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 5, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

The commanding general cannot consider the matters herein presented in the form they are submitted. He has always discouraged "round robins," joint certificates, petitions, and other papers from the officers and men of his command which show concert or combination of action amongst officers or men to obtain revocation or suspension of

orders. Indeed, joint protests are a grave military offense. It is true, that in this case, but two in number join, but their high official position, their weight of character, and their soldierly qualities makes that joint action of more power than if many others had joined in such a paper; indeed, in the cartel two major-generals count sixty. It is the joint action in this case which is objectionable, as it is in all others. There are many acts in the civil law which are not offenses when done separately, which become grave crimes when they are done by a concert or combination. The commanding general trusts that he has never shown himself so insensible to the separate opinions of his corps commanders, upon all matters of military administration, as to render it necessary in the minds of gentlemen for whom he entertains so great respect to [favor] him with the weight of their joint authority.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. FIRST DIV., EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
December 4, 1864.

Colonel Potter's brigade will move at once and go into camp on the right of the line to be occupied by this division. Lieutenant-Colonel Raulston, on being relieved, will move early to-morrow morning with his brigade, and go into camp on the left of Colonel Potter's brigade. Colonel Henry, on being relieved, will move early to-morrow morning with his brigade and go into camp at the place indicated to him, in reserve.

By command of Brigadier-General Devens:

GEORGE A. BRUCE,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 38. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 10TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 4, 1864.

In obedience to orders from headquarters Army of the James, the brigadier-general commanding takes leave of the Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, to be assigned to another position and to the performance of other duties. In relinquishing the command of this gallant division he would do violence to his own feelings did he not embrace this opportunity of expressing his thanks to the officers and enlisted men for the gallantry so frequently displayed by them, and for the energetic and zealous manner in which they have always performed their duties. To your courage, bravery, energy, and zealous application to all the different details of the service is due the proud reputation you have won and the high state of discipline and efficiency which you have attained. It is not necessary to call your attention to the numerous engagements in which you have taken so prominent a part, or to recall the many days and nights spent in the trenches around Petersburg; but among the last of those grand carnivals of death, in which you displayed such gallant and unflinching bravery (the assault upon Fort Gilmer on the 29th of September), when so many of your brave comrades found soldiers' graves; when, amid the lead and iron hail, you twice gallantly and bravely, although unsuccessfully, assaulted one of the strongest works on the continent, 'twas there I learned of what material you were composed and of what gallant deeds you were capa-

ble of performing. In taking leave of you I am glad to be able to congratulate you upon the fact that my successor to the command of the Second Division is that gallant young soldier and able officer, Brigadier-General Ames, of whose brilliant reputation you are already aware.

By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

T. ELLERY LORD,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 4, 1864.

In compliance with orders from headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, dated December 2, 1864, the undersigned assumes command of the Twenty-fourth Army Corps.

The following officers are announced as constituting the staff: Brig Gen. R. S. Foster, chief of staff; Maj. Theodore Read, assistant adjutant-general; Maj. P. Ord, assistant adjutant-general; Maj. S. S. Seward, aide-de-camp; Capt. H. G. Brown, aide-de-camp; Lieut. T. G. Welles, acting aide-de-camp; Capt. A. B. Sharpe, aide-de-camp and assistant provost-marshal; Surg. Lavington Quick, medical director; Surg. J. M. Rice, medical inspector; Maj. C. C. Abell, chief of artillery and acting assistant inspector-general; Lieut. Col. J. B. Howard, chief quartermaster; Maj. Nelson Plato, acting chief quartermaster; Lieut. H. F. Gerrish, acting assistant quartermaster; Capt. M. A. Hill, chief commissary of subsistence; Lieut. C. W. Wells, assistant commissary of subsistence; Lieut. D. T. Wells, commissary of musters; Capt. D. P. Barnard, chief of ambulances. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 24TH ARMY CORPS, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 4, 1864.

1. In obedience to orders from department headquarters the undersigned assumes command of the First Division of the Twenty-fourth Army Corps.

2. Capt. Adrian Terry, U. S. Volunteers, is announced as assistant adjutant-general, to whom all official communications from the command will be addressed.

A. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 4, 1864. (Received 12.05 p. m.)

Brigadier-General GRAHAM,
Commanding Bermuda Line:

Some time to-morrow the One hundred and seventeenth U. S. Colored Troops will report in accordance with orders from department headquarters. They are a part of General Russell's brigade. I would thank you to have them report to him.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 25TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 1. } *In the Field, Va., December 4, 1864.*

This command will hereafter be known as the Second Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps. The following-named regiments will constitute the First Brigade, which will be known as the First Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps, viz: Seventh U. S. Colored Troops, One hundred and sixteenth U. S. Colored Troops, One hundred and ninth U. S. Colored Troops. The following-named regiments will constitute the Second Brigade, which will be known as the Second Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps, viz: Forty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, One hundred and twenty-seventh U. S. Colored Troops. The following-named regiments will constitute the Third Brigade, which will be denominated the Third Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps, viz: Twenty eighth U. S. Colored Troops, Twenty-ninth U. S. Colored Troops, Thirty-first U. S. Colored Troops, One hundred and seventeenth U. S. Colored Troops.

By command of Brig. Gen. William Birney:

JAMES B. WEST,
Lieutenant, Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 4, 1864.

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER,
Commanding District of North Carolina:

GENERAL: Most of the matters in your confidential dispatch by the hand of General Harland, which reached me this morning (December 4), must have been answered by my dispatch by the hand of General Wild, and I think with it you will be able to make the movement which I suggest therein. I should be very glad if you cut the railroad, especially just now. Push for it if it is possible, but when there, make the destruction certain; cut it if it is possible at two points some miles apart so that it shall not be to the enemy a mere transshipment. Have everything of your command that you can possibly ready as a mobile force, to co-operate with me in a movement hereafter possible, and of which you will be instructed. I would suggest after taking Rainbow Bluff to strike across to Tarborough, thence to Rocky Mount, cutting the railroad at Swift Creek and Rocky Mount, so as to put difficulties between yourself and Lee; then forty miles will take you to Goldsborough, thence home via Kinston if you fancy. Live on the country. I would march without transportation, intending to live on the country. Such a movement of yours would be of incalculable service just now, and while I do not order it, I suggest it and will sanction it. As soon as you strike Hamilton with your transportation you might send it back for your cavalry, or, perhaps, what would be still better, leave your cavalry to make the demonstration on Kinston as a diversion. If they can take Kinston let them keep on to Goldsborough. At any rate, hold on to Kinston or in that neighborhood until you could possibly join them.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

NEW BERNE, N. C., *December 4, 1864—6 p. m.*

Colonel MCCHESNEY,
Commanding Sub-District of Beaufort:

SIR: General Palmer directs me to inform you that a train will be at Carolina City at 6 a. m. to-morrow to bring up the Ninth New Jersey Volunteers. They must embark promptly. If the Twenty-seventh have come over from Beaufort, or if they can be got over to-night, they will also be sent up. If not, they must be left behind. Please let me know at once where the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers are. Colonel Stewart, Ninth New Jersey, as previously ordered, will be in command of the whole. None but armed men will be sent, as heretofore ordered. On arrival at the Trent River the troops will march to Spinola Wharf and carry out previous orders.

Respectfully, &c.,

J. A. JUDSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Nothing of importance to report. A deserter confirms the reported death of the Confederate general Archibald Gracie. Wheaton's division, of the Sixth Corps, has arrived and is relieving Crawford's, of the Fifth. The divisions of the Fifth Corps, as they are relieved, will be moved outside of the rear line of works between the Weldon railroad and the Jerusalem plank road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 5, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I read in a Richmond paper a full account of the death of General Gracie. The same shot killed a captain and a private, and wounded one other.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 5, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

You may make immediate preparations to move down the Weldon railroad for the purpose of effectually destroying it as far south as Hicksford, or farther if practicable. Send a force of not less than 20,000 infantry, sixteen or twenty guns, and all your disposable cavalry. Six days' rations and twenty rounds of extra ammunition will be enough to carry along. The infantry ammunition I think it will be advisable to carry in ambulances, six boxes to each team, to avoid heavy trains as far as possible. General Palmer probably started from New Berne yesterday or to-day with a force of from 3,000 to 4,000 men to cut the same road south of the Roanoke. His route is up the Chowan in steamers as far as he can get. The enemy are known to be fortify-

ing about Rainbow. General Palmer will endeaver to turn this position and capture the negroes and few troops engaged in the works. If successful he will then strike for the nearest point of the railroad south of Weldon and work on down the road to Goldsborough, or until driven off by a superior force. If he succeeds in reaching Goldsborough he will move from there directly to New Berne. The force you send should endeavor to destroy the railroad iron collected about Stony Creek either by fire or by twisting. After reaching Hicksford it will probably be advisable to return by roads east of the Weldon road. Whilst the expedition is out reduce the number of men in the line to the lowest maximum. Hold all the reserves thus obtained in readiness to move south if their services should be required. Each reserve can be held in the rear of the corps to which it belongs. I avoid details for the execution, believing they can be better arranged by the officers who go in command of the troops.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *December 5, 1864.*
(Received 1.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE:

A portion of the Third Division, Sixth Corps, with General T. Seymour in command, arrived this morning and have nearly completed their debarkation. The remainder of the division will reach here this afternoon.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 5, 1864—1.45 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

At General Sheridan's request, the order for Getty's division to return here has been suspended for a few days, in which time he hopes to have more satisfactory information as to the intention of Early.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864. (Received 5 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Does the detention of Getty's division make any suspension of your previous orders? If not, I will place another division of the Second Corps in the front line, so as to withdraw the whole of the Fifth Corps; but if you do not propose any movement before the arrival of Getty, I will leave the division of the Fifth he is to relieve in the line till he comes.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 5, 1864—6.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE:

We will not wait for Getty's division. How soon can you move troops? I've been waiting to get off troops down the coast, but as Palmer has already moved from New Berne, will wait here no longer. I will go out to see you in the morning.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864—9.30 p. m. (Sent 9.45 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Seymour says it will take all day to-morrow to get his division up. If so, by to-morrow night the Fifth Corps will be massed ready to move the next day. The cavalry, and, if required, one division of the Second Corps, can move at the same time. No orders, or intimations of any have yet been given or will be till the last moment, so as to prevent the information getting to the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864—1.15 p. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

Surgeon Dougherty is a faithful and meritorious officer who has been continuously in the field since the commencement of the war, and in my judgment is entitled to the relaxation which his assignment to Major-General Hancock will give him. I should not have objected to his transfer had the question been referred to me. My object in alluding to his order was to show the principle being practiced of removing these officers without asking how it would affect the public service, and to base my suggestion that the Department should be asked to make such reference before ordering away others, as I was informed that a considerable number of staff and other officers were expecting orders to report to Major-General Hancock. I am not apprised that these expectations were based on anything Major-General Hancock has said or done, but I thought it prudential to suggest this step being taken, as it is natural both General H[ancock] and the Department should be desirous of getting the most efficient officers in the new corps. In this I am desirous of accommodating General H[ancock] as far as my knowledge of the wants of the service will admit, and I shall cheerfully give my consent to the transfer of any officer whom Major-General Humphreys or any other corps commander says can be spared. If the dispatch in the case of Surgeon Dougherty is not sent I would advise its being retained. Surgeon D[ougherty], under the orders of the War Department sent to him direct by telegraph in advance of the printed order, left here several days ago.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 5, 1864.*
(Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The following dispatch, sent to Major-General Hancock, in reply to his inquiry whether Colonel Morgan had been ordered to report to him, shows the views that were entertained at these headquarters on the subject of your indorsement of this morning:

CITY POINT, VA., *November 28, 1864.*

Major-General HANCOCK,
Washington:

The order for Colonel Morgan to report to you has not been issued, but his leave of absence has been extended ten days. You will have to procure an order from the Secretary of War transferring Colonel Morgan from the Second Army Corps, so as to leave his position in that corps vacant, that it may be filled by General Humphreys, otherwise he will have to remain with the corps.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

General Grant will ask to have the order taking the medical director of the corps suspended. General Humphreys can appoint an acting inspector and recommend him for the place when Colonel Morgan is permanently detached from the Second Corps.

JOHN A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: But one deserter has been forwarded to-day, from the Seventeenth South Carolina, Wallace's brigade, of Johnson's division, who brings no important information. He states that he heard some of his officers say that General Hampton with all his cavalry had gone to Georgia. They went last week. Nothing but rumor to substantiate this report. Everything else quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 5, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain PAINE,
Signal Officer:

Owing to fog, no observations can be made this a. m.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 5, 1864—10 a. m.

Captain THICKSTUN,
Signal Officer:

Since 8.30 this a. m. a great many stragglers in light marching order have been noticed moving in direction of Petersburg on the Cox road; about twenty ambulances and a train of ten wagons moving in same

direction on same road. The ambulances were a good deal separated, seldom being more than three together. No apparent change in the enemy's camps.

VAN B. SLEEPER,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The several stations report as follows:

PLANK ROAD STATION.

Between 9 and 12 a. m. about 200 straggling individuals with guns and knapsacks, &c., came up from the left and disappeared northwest of lead-works, moving toward Petersburg. About fifty men were engaged improving the fort near lead-works. Several other working parties at various points on their lines.

The Friend house station and that upon the Avery house report no changes.

The Walthall house station reports a small working party engaged upon Fort Clifton, and the following intercepted messages:

Major P.:

Two trains, one of nine box-cars and two flats, and the other of five box-cars and seven flats, all the flats loaded with troops, just passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left.

W.,
At D.

STEUART'S FRONT—1.10 p. m.

Colonel B.:

Some sharpshooting going on this a. m. No change in enemy's camp.

DUNN'S.

All quiet. No negroes visible; white pickets in our front. The enemy is erecting winter quarters in camps to our left of open space. Two schooners off Strahan's lower landing. Gun-boat off Port Walthall.

R.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

2.45 P. M.

Major P.:

Two trains, one of nine box-cars, the other of twelve flats, the tops crowded with troops, just passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left.

W.,
At D.

STEUART'S FRONT—3.30 p. m.

Colonel B.:

At 9 a. m. eight companies and nine squads of infantry (I think they were negroes) were drilling behind Battery A. The enemy still strengthening their first line of works. Twenty-nine wagons passed up and forty wagons and fifty-four ambulances passed down the river during the day. At 12 m. one regiment passed up the river. Two gun-boats near Howlett's.

R.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

4 P. M.

Major P.:

There has passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, four trains of cars, twenty wagons, and four ambulances; rear of same battery going toward City Point one train of nineteen box-cars, one engine, and fourteen wagons.

W.,
At D.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Major and Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864—10.50 a. m.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant, &c.:

No change in our immediate front. Fog prevents making observations north of the Appomattox River. All quiet.

JANSEN.

All quiet.

CAROTHERS.

The enemy are running a new line of chevaux-de-frise along the front of their works on this bank of the river. All quiet.

JORDAN.

Owing to fog no observations can be made this a. m.

HOLMAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain and Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 143. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., December 5, 1864.

I. The four companies of the One hundred and eighty-fourth Regiment New York Volunteers, now in the First Brigade, Third Division, Sixth Army Corps, are hereby transferred from the Sixth Corps to the Army of the James, and will proceed to Harrison's Landing and join the six companies of the regiment on duty there. The quartermaster's department will furnish necessary transportation.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 329. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864.

* * * * * * *

13. Corps and other independent commanders will at once cause all their burial grounds to be securely fenced in. Each division and independent command should have a separate lot for the interment of its dead, and all isolated bodies of deceased soldiers will be disinterred

with as little delay as practicable and reinterred in the burial ground of the division or independent command to which they belonged. Durable head-boards, with proper inscriptions, will be placed over all graves. The inscriptions upon the head-boards of graves will give the name, rank, company, and regiment of the deceased soldier. Care will be taken to have all inscriptions legibly made and in such a manner that they will not be readily affected by the weather. Where inscriptions are becoming obliterated they will be renewed. Soldiers dying in division hospitals will be interred in the burial ground of their division. The attention of all corps commanders is directed to General Orders, No. 75, of September 11, 1861, and paragraph II of General Orders, No. 33, of April 3, 1862, from the War Department, on this subject.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BATLN. U. S. ENGINEERS, HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864.

Maj. J. C. DUANE,
Chief Engineer:

SIR: In accordance with your directions, I yesterday inspected the lines from Fort Dushane to Fort Wadsworth and report as follows: The works along the line and the abatis are in the same condition as last reported, with the exception of that portion of the abatis in front of Forts Clarke and Siebert; about ten yards of that in front of Fort Clarke had been removed, and teamsters belonging to the Second Division, Second Corps, train, under charge of Lieutenant White, were building log huts on the place occupied by it. In front of Fort Siebert brush had been piled on top of the outer line of abatis; this I directed to be removed by the Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, camped in front. With these exceptions the line is in good condition. I would respectfully call attention to the building of log huts near the fortifications, particularly along the front line at Forts Wadsworth, Keene, Urmston, Conahey, and Fisher, and recommend that orders be given to burn them as soon as an attack is apprehended, or in case it should become necessary to hold the line by the forts alone.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. W. HOWELL,
Corps of Engineers.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the commanding general.

J. C. DUANE,
Major of Engineers.

[Second indorsement.]

Issue an order directing the immediate removal of all camps, huts, corrals, or other structures erected in the vicinity of the lines of defense, whether in front or rear, which in the judgment of the chief engineer

interfere with the proper defense of the works. Corps and other commanders will see this order is promptly executed on being notified by the chief engineer, who will report to these headquarters the failure of any officer to comply promptly with this order.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864. (Received 10.07 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

No changes in the disposition of my troops and nothing of importance occurred during the last twenty-four hours.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864—9.15 p. m. (Sent 9.40 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general directs that you relieve to-morrow morning early Griffin's division, Fifth Corps, by Gibbon's division, of the Second Corps.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864—9.30 p. m. (Sent 9.40 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

An order will be sent you requiring you to relieve Griffin to-morrow by Gibbon. This and some other circumstances will require a postponement of the medal presentation proposed.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864—10.35 p. m. (Sent 10.55 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

I am directed by the commanding general to say that Mott must relieve Gibbon's pickets on the rear line.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864. (Received 11.15 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your dispatch received. I had already directed General Mott to relieve Gibbon's picket-line on the rear at daylight to-morrow.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 309. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *Peebles' House, Before Petersburg, Va., December 5, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

4. The major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac, having received medals of honor for the under-mentioned men of this command, proposes to present these medals in person. Accordingly, the regiments to which these medals belong will be marched to the vicinity of these headquarters, and formed on ground to be designated by a staff officer, with the men who are to receive the medals in front, at the hour of 12 m. to-morrow, at which time the presentations will be made. Division and brigade commanders are invited to be present.

FIRST DIVISION.

Sergt. W. Westerhold, Company G, Fifty-second New York Volunteers.

Sergt. George H. Dore, Company D, One hundred and twenty-sixth New York Volunteers.

Private Jerry Wall, Company B, One hundred and twenty-sixth New York Volunteers.

Private George W. Harris, Company B, One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers.

SECOND DIVISION.

Sergt. Maj. W. B. Hincks, Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers.

Private Elijah W. Bacon, Company F, Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers.

Corpl. Christopher Flynn, Company K, Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers.

Private John B. Mayberry, Company F, First Delaware Volunteers.

Private John H. Weeks, Company H, One hundred and fifty-second New York Volunteers.

Corpl. Joseph H. De Castro, Company I, Nineteenth Massachusetts Volunteers.

Sergt. Benjamin H. Jellison, Company C, Nineteenth Massachusetts Volunteers.

Corpl. M. C. Hanscom, Company F, Nineteenth Maine Volunteers.

Private Lewis Rounds, Company C, Fourth Ohio Volunteers.

Private Lewis Morgan, Company I, Fourth Ohio Volunteers.

THIRD DIVISION.

Private Oliver P. Rood, Company B, Twentieth Indiana Volunteers.

Sergt. William P. Thompson, Company G, Twentieth Indiana Volunteers.

Private Archibald Freeman, Company E, One hundred and twenty-fourth New York Volunteers.

Private Philip Schlachter, Company F, Seventy-third New York Volunteers.

Private Francis A. Bishop, Company C, Fifty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Corpl. Charles L. Russell, Company H, Ninety-third New York Volunteers.

Corpl. John M. Kindig, Sixty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers.
Private John N. Opel, Company G, Seventh Indiana Volunteers.

* * * * * * *

9. The Second Division of this corps will relieve General Griffin's division, of the Fifth Corps, in holding the intrenchments as soon after daylight on the morning of the 6th instant as practicable. The right of General Griffin's command is between Fort Urmston and Fort Keene, and his left at Fort Fisher. General Gibbon will assign garrisons to Fort Urmston and Fort Conahey, 250 men to the former and 75 men to the latter. The pickets of the Second Division in the rear will be relieved by 300 men of the Third Division at daylight in the morning.

10. The presentation of medals for soldiers of this command directed by paragraph 4, special orders of this date, from these headquarters, to take place to-morrow, is postponed until further orders.

* * * * * * *

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND CORPS,
No. 203. } *December 5, 1864.*

Capt. R. Bruce Ricketts, First Pennsylvania Artillery, is announced as acting major, and assigned to the command of the batteries of this brigade in position on the line of the Ninth Corps, viz: Sixth Maine Battery; F, First Pennsylvania Artillery; Third New Jersey Battery; G, First New York Artillery; C, Fourth New York Artillery.

* * * * * * *

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864—9.05 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing unusual transpired in front of this corps yesterday or during the night.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864. (Sent 9.35 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Major-General Humphreys has been directed to relieve Griffin's division, Fifth Corps, early to-morrow morning by Gibbon's division, Second Corps.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864—10.10 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

Am I to send artillery to relieve yours in the forts in Griffin's front? There are two forts on his front, are there not?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864—10.15 p. m. (Received 10.20 p. m.)

General HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

I understand that you are not to relieve my batteries; I am to let them remain where they are until further orders.

G. K. WARREN.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 302. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864.

* * * * * * *

II. The One hundred and fourth Regiment New York Volunteers, Captain Graham commanding, is relieved from duty with the Third Division and will report for duty at these headquarters as the provost-guard of the corps. They will be camped under the direction of Capt. P. A. Oliver, acting provost-marshal of the corps.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 5, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General BARTLETT,
Commanding Third Brigade:

GENERAL: The general commanding is informed that this division will be relieved by a division from the Second Corps early to-morrow morning, and directs that you have your command in readiness to move accordingly.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Nothing unusual along our lines has been reported during the past twenty-four hours. Deserter confirms the report of General Gracie's death. Three deserters from Forty-sixth Virginia and Seventeenth South Carolina.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 3d instant reporting the condition of certain works along your front has been received and laid before the commanding general. Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding, commanding Fiftieth New York Engineers, has been directed to send two companies of his command to take charge of the repairs of the works alluded to by you, and if additional companies are found necessary they will, if possible, be furnished. The commanding general desires that you will supply the officers in charge of the engineer troops with as large working parties as it is practicable for you to provide.

I am, general, very respectfully,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy to chief engineer.)

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864—10 a. m.

Maj. N. MICHLER,
Corps of Engineers, Army of the Potomac:

Your communication of December 3, calling my attention to condition of line, has just come to hand. I fully appreciate the condition that we found the intrenchments, both as to repairs and police, and steps were at once taken to police the line and repair the parapets. This latter work progresses slowly, and I availed myself of your offer to send an engineer officer and some engineer troops. I hope you will send us all the assistance possible. Your telegram of yesterday informed me that Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding would send two companies.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 5, 1864.

List of soldiers of the Ninth Army Corps for whom medals of honor have been received by Major-General Meade, viz:

Private John H. Harbourne, Company K, Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Veteran Volunteers; Sergt. James S. Hill, Company C, Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery; Sergt. Maj. George H. Plowman, Third Maryland Battalion; First Sergt. Barnard A. Strausbaugh, Company A, Third Maryland Battalion; Private Robert Reid, Company G, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers; Corpl. Patrick Monaghan, Company G, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers; Sergt. Henry W. Rowe, Company I, Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers; Sergt. Leander A. Wilkins, Company H, Ninth New Hampshire Volunteers; Sergt. Charles Brown, Company C, Fiftieth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers; Corpl. Benj. F. Young, Company I, First Michigan Sharpshooters; Corpl. Franklin Hogan, Company A, Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864.

Brigadier-General POTTER,
Jones' House:

I will not go out this p. m.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 5, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Richmond papers just in. Sherman reached Milledgeville on the 20th, and left with his main body 25th. They cannot make out where he is or where he is going. Dates of Georgia papers to the 30th. Orderly on the way with papers.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General of Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 387. } HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., December 5, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

12. The Sixty-second Ohio Volunteers and One hundred and fifteenth New York Volunteers are relieved from duty with Brigadier-General Ferrero's command, and will repair at once to the line occupied by the Twenty-fourth Army Corps, and report to the commanding officer of the brigade to which they respectively belong.

* * * * * * *

27. In compliance with the suggestion of the Department of State, referred to the commanding general by the Secretary of War, a board of inquiry is hereby constituted to investigate the circumstances attending the sinking of the insurgent steamer Florida in Hampton Roads, the causes which led to it, the degree of diligence used to prevent the occurrence, and to report in detail all the evidence which can be collected on the subject as early as practicable. This board will be joined by such officers of equal number as may be appointed by the admiral commanding the North Atlantic Squadron, on the part of the naval force, for the like purpose, and will form a joint board of inquiry. If the admiral commanding shall decline to appoint officers members of the board, then the board hereby constituted will proceed alone in the investigation.

Brigadier-General Shepley, commanding the District of Eastern Virginia; Brig. Gen. J. B. Carr, commanding Separate Brigade on the northern side of the James; Lieut. Col. George A. Kensel, inspector-general of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, are hereby appointed members of the board. Lieutenant-Colonel Kensel will be recorder.

The board of inquiry is authorized to employ a phonographic reporter and empowered to summon witnesses. All persons whosoever knowing any fact or circumstance material to the subject-matter of the investigation are requested to make known the same to the recorder

of the board of inquiry, at Fortress Monroe. The recorder will cause to be published in all the newspapers printed in the district a copy of this order, calling upon all persons to give evidence in relation to the subject of the inquiry.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 5, 1864—11.20 a. m.

Captain EDSON:

Please have at once all the powder of which I spoke to you put in sand-bags or flour-sacks ready for shipment. You will see Admiral Porter on the subject. You will get the bags of the engineer department at Fortress Monroe. If not, notify me by telegram.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORTRESS MONROE, VA., *December 5, 1864—4 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

I am all ready, and shall call on the ordnance officer at Fortress Monroe for material.

D. D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 5, 1864.

I. The Thirteenth Indiana Volunteers, having been unintentionally omitted in the organization of the corps, is ordered to report to Brigadier-General Ames for duty.

By command of Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 5, 1864.

In obedience to instructions from headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Army of the James, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps.

A. AMES,
Brigadier-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. SECOND BRIG., SECOND DIV., TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS, *Chaffin's Farm, Va., December 5, 1864.*

I. Pursuant to instructions received from headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Army of the James, the undersigned hereby assumes command of this brigade, consisting of the Forty-eighth and Forty-seventh New York, and Seventy-sixth, Ninety-seventh, and Two hundred and third Pennsylvania regiments of infantry.

II. All orders heretofore issued from headquarters Second Brigade, Second Division, Tenth Army Corps, will remain in full force in this brigade until annulled or modified by competent authority.

G. PENNYPACKER,
Colonel Ninety-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. } HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, THIRD DIV., TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS, *December 5, 1864.*

In accordance with orders from division headquarters, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the First Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps, which will be organized as follows: Eleventh Connecticut Volunteers, Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, Nineteenth Wisconsin Volunteers, Eighty-first New York Volunteers, Ninety-eighth New York Volunteers, One hundred and thirty-ninth New York Volunteers. The following-named officers are announced on the brigade staff: Capt. R. P. Staniels, Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, acting assistant adjutant-general; Capt. George N. Julian, Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, acting assistant inspector-general; First Lieut. P. H. O'Beirne, One hundred and thirty-ninth New York Volunteers, acting assistant quartermaster; First. Lieut. D. D. Mott, Ninety-eighth New York Volunteers, acting commissary of subsistence; First Lieut. Julius H. Clarke, Eighty-first New York Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp; First Lieut. Charles B. Gafney, Thirteenth New Hampshire Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

J. B. RAULSTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel Eighty-first New York Volunteer Infantry.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 5, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: Having been yesterday placed in command of this corps, and assigned to it by authority from the War Department, I now respectfully request that the following appointments be made on my personal staff, and sent to me, viz: Capt. E. E. Graves, Eighth Connecticut Volunteers, to be major and aide-de-camp; Capt. H. B. Fitch, One hundred and thirty-ninth New York Volunteers, and Capt. Lewis Weitzel, First U. S. Volunteers, to be captains and aides-de-camp. I further request that Capt. D. D. Wheeler, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, be appointed assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, with the rank of major, and assigned to me. I have no adjutant-general now.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Comdg. Twenty-fifth Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, December 5, 1864.

Lieut. Col. E. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

SIR: I have just been shown the inclosed document* with the indorsement of the major-general commanding, and were I not so intimately acquainted with the handwriting of the general commanding I should doubt the authenticity of the indorsement. I, therefore, return it immediately, and most respectfully beg leave to protest against any such a communication being sent me. If I deserve such a punishment as the censure that is expressed in that indorsement I must be tried by a proper tribunal first before I will submit to it. There is nothing in my official action since the first day I joined the general commanding in 1862 to this or in my conduct toward him which warrants such an insulting and uncalled for rebuke. General Ord and myself occupied adjacent tents when that order came, and our names were signed on one communication because it saved one sheet of paper, and as far as my signature was concerned it was made with the best intention in the world, namely, to cause an impracticable order to be reconsidered, and this was done in the most respectful manner. There was no idea of concert of action or "joint weight." I had, at the moment the order came, no command, no adjutant-general, no office, for the Tenth Corps machinery had not reported to me yet. This was another and a very potent reason why I signed my name under that of General Ord.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General, Commanding Twenty-fifth Corps.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 25TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 1. } *In the Field, Va., December 5, 1864.*

I. The One hundred and seventeenth U. S. Colored Troops is hereby assigned to the First Brigade of this command. The commanding officer will report with his command to Col. James Shaw, jr., immediately.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. William Birney:

JAMES B. WEST,
First Lieut., Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 5, 1864.

Colonel MCCLURE,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: Colonel Bates, commanding brigade, has been ordered to send you at once a regiment of at least 500 men. As soon as it reports you will put them in the position now occupied by the Sixty second Ohio Volunteers and the One hundred and fifteenth New York Volun-

* See Ord and Weitzel to Turner, December 4, p. 800.

teers, and order the two last-named regiments to proceed without delay and report to their respective brigades in the Twenty-fourth Corps.

By order of Brigadier-General Ferrero:

GEO. A. HICKS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 6, 1864.*
(Received 12.10 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Can you tell whether General Upton has been ordered away from the Sixth Corps to Tennessee or elsewhere?

C. B. COMSTOCK,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864.

Col. C. B. COMSTOCK,
Aide-de-Camp:

At this moment I am unable to answer your inquiry about General Upton, but I will endeavor to ascertain from Generals Seymour and Wheaton whether the order you allude to has been issued.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864.

Col. C. B. COMSTOCK,
Aide-de-Camp:

General Seymour informs me that about the 1st of December General Upton was with the Army of the Shenandoah, and soon to leave for Tennessee, where it was understood he was to have a division of cavalry.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following deserters received to-day: First Tennessee, Archer's brigade, Heth's division; Twelfth South Carolina, McGowan's brigade, Wilcox's division; Twenty-third South Carolina, Wallace's brigade, Johnson's division; Sixtieth Alabama, Gracie's brigade, Johnson's division. Deserter from First Tennessee reports Heth's division

unchanged, and posted as follows, from right to left: Cooke, Davis, Archer, MacRae. Cooke's brigade (on extreme right of all infantry) is posted by regiments at intervals; the rest are in line of works. Deserter from McGowan reports no changes in Wilcox's division, which is posted from right to left as follows: McGowan, Lane, Scales. Deserters from Twenty-third South Carolina and Sixtieth Alabama, Johnson's division, report no changes in his position; is posted from right to left as follows: Evans, Wise, Gracie, Ransom. No movement of troops has been noticed by informants. Those from Heth's division would have been likely to notice any movement of Mahone toward Stony Creek. They report all quiet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant:

All quiet this a. m.

JORDAN.

Owing to fog, no observations can be made this a. m.

HOLMAN.

All quiet and no changes observed.

CAROTHERS.

Small parties at work to right and left of Crater. No change in position. All quiet.

JANSEN.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following reports:

FRIEND'S HOUSE, *December 6, 1864.*

A camp of six large tents to west of city has disappeared.

PLANK ROAD STATION, *December 6, 1864.*

Enemy improving works at several points in our front, and, as usual, at lead-works.

The following messages were intercepted from the enemy's signal station:

STEUART'S FRONT—11.30 a. m.

Colonel B.:

All quiet. One regiment of infantry just passed open space going to the front in Prince George. Some picket-firing this a. m. Enemy's pickets keep close, but I think they are whites.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

DUNN'S—11.40 a. m.

Colonel B.:

Two steamers off Strahan's lower landing; two schooners at Strahan's upper landing; gun-boat above Port Walthall.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

STEUART'S FRONT—12 m.

Colonel B.:

Picket-firing continued. Two hundred and fifty infantry drilling in rear of Battery A at 8 a. m. Twenty-three wagons went up and five down the river. Seven wagons, guarded by infantry, went up the river about 1 p. m. Soon afterward ten wagons went up and two down. Gun-boat and land batteries shelled Dutch Gap.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

3.30 P. M.

Major P.:

I report two trains, one of seven and the other of twenty-two box-cars, twelve of which were heavily loaded with troops. One piece of artillery and twelve wagons passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left; toward City Point two trains, one of three box and five flat cars, and thirty-five wagons.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

Colonel B.:

One regiment of infantry, followed by four pieces of artillery, six horses to a piece, just passed open space going to the front in Chesterfield. They came from the direction of Bermuda Hundred.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieut. and Actg. Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 330. } *December 6, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

3. All camps located, as well as huts, corrals, or other structures, erected in the vicinity of the lines of defense, whether in front or rear, which, in the judgment of the chief engineer, interfere with the proper defense of the works will be immediately removed. Corps and other independent commanders will see that this order is promptly executed on being notified by the chief engineer that the removal of any camp or structure along their lines is deemed by him necessary, and the chief engineer will report to these headquarters the failure of any officer to comply promptly with this order.

* * * * * * *

8. For the present, Brigadier-Generals Seymour and Wheaton, commanding divisions, Sixth Corps, will report to Major-General Humphreys, commanding Second Corps, who is charged with the defense of the lines from Battery 23 to Fort Dushane.

9. Major-Generals Parke and Humphreys, commanding Ninth and Second Corps, respectively, will arrange their respective commands so that the lines will be held with the minimum force, depending principally on the inclosed works, and the rest of the troops will be held

ready as reserves to make any movement that may be ordered. Inspections will be made of the works to see that they are supplied with ammunition and subsistence.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—10.07 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

The Second Division of this corps relieved Griffin's division after daylight this morning. The First and Third Brigades are in the line of intrenchments—the First on the left, the Third on the right, and the Second in reserve, in rear of the right. The Third Division relieved the pickets of the Second Division from Arthur's Swamp to Weldon railroad early this morning. No other changes have taken place since last report and nothing of importance has transpired. Four rebel deserters came in during the night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864. (Received 12.20 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Respectfully forwarded for information of commanding general.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—12 m.

Capt. I. THICKSTUN,
Chief Signal Officer, Second Army Corps:

CAPTAIN: The large 8-inch gun which was removed from the enemy's works on Sunday night has not yet been replaced. Northwest of Fort Welch a large camp has been nearly deserted and men have been observed tearing down the winter quarters. The enemy have small working parties along the line strengthening the breastworks and are still busy erecting the fort west of Fort Welch which was reported on Saturday last A working party of about 150 men engaged upon it. The fort to the right of this one has been apparently completed with the exception of the embrasure. The tops of the two gun carriages can be seen. No other artillery observed, with the exception of one light field piece to right of Boisseau's property. Squads of men drilling in rear of their works.

RICHARD P. STRONG,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I have directed General Mott to report immediately to General Warren. General Mott's division, by the last return, has present for duty 5,789 enlisted men. His picket guard is 800 men. There are three

brigades containing, respectively, 2,230, 1,723, and 1,836 enlisted men. General Miles' division has 6,336 enlisted men—four brigades. About one-half are recruits, but he reports the division in good condition, the rest of a month out of the intrenchments having given a good opportunity for drill and discipline.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864—2.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

You can retain the picket detail of General Mott's division.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

Am I to send artillery to Fort Dushane to-morrow morning and the prescribed garrison also? In the contingency contemplated in the order received this evening from army headquarters, are the rear works to be held, or merely the front line as far as and including Fort Cummings? The order specifies the line held by my command to be from Battery 23 (24?) to Fort Dushane.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: In answer to your note of this evening I am instructed by the commanding general to say that for the present it will be necessary for you to keep garrison and artillery in the works in the portion of the rear line held by you. The commanding general designed in issuing the order to which you allude that the right of your line should commence with the right of Wheaton's division as now posted. He is not certain whether Wheaton's right is at Battery 24 or 23.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—11 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have already ordered garrisons and artillery to all the works in the rear line held by me excepting Fort Dushane, to which I

shall now order a garrison and artillery, understanding your general reply to include that work, as I specifically referred to it. General Parke's left is at Battery 24, and General Wheaton's right begins there. You did not reply to my inquiry whether the contingency of holding the intrenchments chiefly by the garrisons of the inclosed works was intended to apply to the line of rear intrenchments as well as to the front line. I suppose it is not, and that in the event of moving, Fort Cummings would probably be the last work held. But the order does not so indicate, and under it I must place certain ammunition for artillery and infantry, and certain rations, in the rear works, Fort Dushane included, and will do so unless I hear to the contrary from you to-morrow morning early.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: In the list of names of enlisted men of the Second Corps, for whom medals of honor have been received by the major-general commanding, transmitted to you yesterday, the name of Sergeant Terence Begley, Company D, Seventh New York Artillery, should have been included. The name is not on the list furnished by the War Department, but a medal has been received for the sergeant, and it is known that he was recommended for one. You are, therefore, desired by the commanding general to have Sergeant Begley's name placed on your list, and to cause him to be present when the medals are distributed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Brigadier-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires you to place some three or four regiments in the vicinity of Fort Cummings, just before daylight to-morrow morning, from which the garrison for Fort Cummings and Fort Emery will be furnished; the garrison for the latter to encamp near it. The garrison for Fort Cummings should be 175 men; for Fort Emery, 150 men.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Col. R. NUGENT,
Commanding Second Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that the Sixty-ninth and Eighty-eighth New York Volunteers be sent, under the com-

mand of the senior officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Burke, who has been relieved from duty as officer of the day, to the vicinity of Fort Cummings at 2 a. m., so as to be in position there before daylight to-morrow. They will furnish a garrison of 175 men for that fort. The regiments will occupy the position vacated by the Third Division of this corps. A staff officer from these headquarters will conduct them. He directs that you place the Sixty-third New York and the pioneers of your brigade in the camps left by the Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, where tents will be pitched in order that the enemy may observe no change.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Col. C. D. MACDOUGALL,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that the Fifty-second and Fifty-seventh New York Volunteers be sent to the vicinity of Fort Emery at 2 a. m., so as to be in position there by daylight to-morrow. They will furnish a garrison of 150 men for that fort, and will, with two regiments from Second Brigade, be under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Burke, Eighty-eighth New York Volunteers, for special purposes, although for ordinary business will remain under your command as usual. They will occupy the position near Fort Emery vacated by the Third Division of the corps. A staff officer from these headquarters will conduct them. He directs that your prisoners be placed in the camps vacated by the regiments named, where tents will be pitched in order that the enemy may observe no change.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

I have the honor to report that my division relieved General Griffin's after daylight this morning. The First and Third Brigades are in the line of intrenchments—the First on the left, the Third on the right, and the Second in reserve in rear of the right. Unless the general desires it, I will not for the present change my headquarters.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Major-General GIBBON,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires you to furnish the following garrisons to Fort Siebert and Fort Clarke, to encamp as near to those works as possible: Fort Siebert, 200 men; Fort Clarke, 250 men. These instructions to be carried out early to-morrow morning.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST BRIGADE,
December 6, 1864.

Maj. JOHN M. NORVELL,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report the following changes in the position of this brigade: In compliance with instructions from division headquarters, received at midnight on the 5th instant, this command moved from its encampment in front of Fort Siebert at 6 o'clock this morning and relieved a portion of the First Division, Fifth Corps. The brigade now occupies a portion of the line of works between Fort Fisher on the left and Fort Urmston on the right, garrisoning Fort Conahey with seventy-five men of the One hundred and eighty-fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, Lieut. Col. C. Kleckner.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAS. M. WILLETT,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I have relieved the pickets of the Second Division from Arthur's Swamp to the Weldon railroad. No other changes have taken place in the lines of this division, nor anything further of note occurred since my last report.

Very respectfully,
G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you continue to keep guard from your reserve over the intrenchments and slashings in the rear line, the preservation of which you have already been charged with.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—3.40 p. m.

You will be prepared to move to-morrow morning at daylight. Your command will be supplied with six days' rations, four on the person, and 100 rounds small-arm ammunition (sixty on the person). One-half the number of ambulances authorized, with all the stretchers, will be taken; also, one medicine wagon and one hospital wagon to each brigade. No baggage wagons will accompany the troops. One wagon, in addition to headquarters spring-wagons, to each division and brigade headquarters for the subsistence of officers and forage will be taken.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

CHAS. F. MOORE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To brigade commanders.)

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 72. } HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

This command will move promptly at 6 o'clock to-morrow morning. The following will be the order of march: First, First Brigade, Brigadier-General De Trobriand; second, Second Brigade, Brig. Gen. B. R. Pierce; third, Third Brigade, Col. R. McAllister. The column will be kept well closed up. Brigade and regimental commanders will use every effort to prevent straggling. The prescribed number of ambulances will follow the troops. The other wagons mentioned in the circular of this date will be at the Gurley house before 6 a. m.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. G. Mott:

CHAS. F. MOORE,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that all was quiet in front of this corps yesterday and during the night. The Third Division (Crawford's) was relieved from the line last evening by a division of the Sixth Corps.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to communicate to you the following instructions: You will be prepared to move down the Weldon railroad to-morrow morning at daylight, or as soon thereafter as practicable, with the force hereafter mentioned, striking the road below Stony Creek and effectually destroying it from that point as far as Hicksford, if possible. The force under your com-

mand will be the Fifth Corps, with Mott's division, of Second Corps, and two brigades of cavalry, the latter under Brigadier-General Gregg. The command will be supplied with six days' rations, four on the person; 100 rounds of small-arm ammunition, sixty on the person, the reserve on pack mules; one battery of artillery to each division of infantry and one with the cavalry will be taken, each battery to carry the full supply of ammunition, but no reserves. One-half the number of authorized ambulances, with all the stretchers, will be taken; also one medicine wagon and one hospital wagon to each brigade; and one-half the authorized supply of intrenching tools in addition to pioneer's tools. No baggage wagons will accompany the troops, but one wagon to each headquarters will be allowed for the subsistence of officers and for forage for their horses; in addition, pack-mules to be taken from the headquarters trains. The suggestion is made to take the reserve ammunition and two days' subsistence on pack-mules, but if this should prove inconvenient or impracticable wagons may be used, but in that event the precaution should be taken to carry pack-saddles for use in case of an emergency. After completing the duty herein indicated the expedition will return by moving to the eastward and crossing the Nottoway as low down as practicable, and on returning the cavalry force should be sent in advance to notify these headquarters of the return of your command and of the route proposed to be taken. Brevet Major-General Mott and Brigadier-General Gregg have been directed to report to you for the necessary orders for their guidance.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864—1 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Please report here as soon as convenient.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I am instructed by the commanding general to say that you can relieve Ayres' division from the line as soon as his pickets are relieved by troops of Seymour's division.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Sent 10.45 p. m.)

Major-General WARREN:

I directed General Seymour at 2 p. m. to relieve all of Ayres' pickets. I understand all of Seymour's division but two regiments have reached

here. You can therefore move Ayres in the morning with the rest of your command, and Seymour will look out for the line. Have you made all your arrangements to get off in the morning?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864. (Received 11 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Major-General Warren has gone to see General Gregg. I have the honor to report that General Ayres' pickets were relieved by General Seymour about dusk. The orders for the march have been issued and everything arranged to start at 6 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Respectfully,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I have directed General Mott to report to you. Will you give me timely notice of his moving, so that I may relieve his pickets and put a brigade in position near Fort Cummings? I refrain from issuing any orders about it at present, so as to keep the matter secret as long as practicable.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864—3 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

I am authorized by the commanding general of the army to retain Mott's picket detail, 800 men. His division has 5,789 enlisted men present for duty.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—6.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

Does Ayres include Fort Wadsworth?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

Fort Wadsworth has been garrisoned by Crawford's troops, now relieved by the Sixth Corps troops (Wheaton's).

For Major-General Warren.

FRED T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 157. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—3.20 p. m.

You will be prepared to move to-morrow morning at daylight. Your command will be supplied with six days' rations, four on the person; 100 rounds small-arm ammunition, sixty on the person, the reserve on pack-mules if practicable. One-half the number of ambulances authorized, with all the stretchers, will be taken; also one medicine wagon and one hospital wagon to each brigade. No baggage wagons will accompany the troops. One wagon to each division and brigade headquarters for the subsistence of officers and forage for their horses will be taken.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—All sick unable to march will be left at the corps hospital, and all trains left behind will report to Colonel Thomas, chief quartermaster, at the Gurley house.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 63. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

The following is the order of march for to-morrow: First, Gregg's cavalry; second, General Crawford's division; third, General Griffin's division; fourth, General Ayres' division; fifth, General Mott's division; sixth, the wagon train.

A battery will accompany each division. The whole will move at 6 a. m., the cavalry as much sooner as practicable. The route will be just south of the Yellow Tavern, of the Gurley house, of the Smith house, and of the Temple house, and then turning south along the Jerusalem plank road to the crossing of the Nottoway River at Freeman's Bridge. General Gregg will use a brigade of cavalry, or a sufficient force forward to protect the right flank and cover the rear of the wagon train, watching and holding all the roads toward Reams' Station and the roads coming from the Rowanty Creek until the train is past. General Ayres will furnish a brigade of infantry to accompany the wagon trains as guard. The train will be under Colonel Thomas, at the Gurley house. The ambulances of each division will accompany the division.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

This command will be prepared to move to-morrow morning at daylight supplied with four days' rations and sixty rounds of ammunition per man on the person. No baggage wagons will accompany the troops. One wagon for division and one for each brigade headquarters, for the subsistence of officers and forage for their horses, will be taken. All wagons left behind will report to Colonel Thomas, chief quartermaster, at the Gurley house. The required amount of ammunition and rations must be obtained to-night.

By command of Brigadier-General Griffin:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Brigade commanders will report when this order is complied with concerning the supplies.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General AYRES:

Your men that are relieved to-night can remain where you are camped till the morning.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 6, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Five hundred men just arrived and sent to General Ayres' position. Two more trains expected soon.

T. SEYMOUR,
Brigadier-General.

No more men will be up to-night. General Ayres moves out at daylight. I have a sufficient force there to be secure.

T. S.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—10.45 a. m. (Received 11 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual transpired along our line during the past twenty-four hours. The repairs along the line are progressing slowly. Two companies of engineer troops have reported for duty. These are at work in the vicinity of Fort Stedman. If they can be spared I should like to have two more companies for duty along the line from Sedgwick to Norfolk railroad. Five deserters are reported as having come in.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—11.45 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

Since my report of this a. m., Captain Dexter, of the Fiftieth New York Engineers, has reported and will go to work on the intrenchments from Sedgwick to the Norfolk railroad. Two deserters from the Sixtieth Alabama have reported. Report no change in movement of troops.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—12.35 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The five deserters mentioned in my report of this morning have just come in. Four are from Fifty-ninth Virginia and one from Forty-sixth Virginia. They say that it is reported that Field's division has gone to Georgia.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

This division will be in readiness to move to-morrow at 5 a. m. Each trooper will be fully supplied with four days' rations from to-morrow evening and will carry thirty pounds of forage for his horse and the full supply of ammunition. Overcoats and shelter-tents will be carried. No wagon will accompany the command save one to each brigade and one for the division headquarters, fifteen ambulances, and ten ammunition wagons. But one battery (Dennison's) will accompany the command. The Thirteenth Pennsylvania and Sixth Ohio will not accompany the command. These regiments and Garvin's battery will remain in their present camps, under command of Col. M. Kerwin, Thirteenth Pennsylvania, who will report in person to the general commanding for instructions. Before the hour designated for the movement of the command, all the wagons will be packed and sent to the division train. Nothing will be allowed to remain in the present camps after the departure of the division. In quitting the camps there should be no destruction of the huts. The division train will be kept loaded with eight days' rations and as much forage as possible and will remain in its present position. Brigade commanders will relieve their pickets at 9 o'clock this p. m. The force at present on the telegraph road will not be relieved by the commanding officer of the First Brigade. The commanding officer of the Second Brigade will send a small force supplied as required, to remain on the Lee's Mill road until to-morrow morning.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 6, 1864.

This command will move at 5 a. m to-morrow in the following order: First, Second Brigade; second, First Brigade, ambulances, ammunition wagons; third, Third Brigade. The leading brigade will move punctually at the hour specified and the other brigades will move so as to occasion no detention and well closed up. At 5 o'clock the First Brigade will mass near the camps of the Second Brigade. Brigade commanders will, through staff officers, report the readiness of their brigades to move. The commanding officer of the Second Brigade will receive instructions as to the route to be followed.

By command of Brigadier-General Gregg:

THOS. ARROWSMITH,
Lieut., Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *December 6, 1864—3 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER:

A movement will commence on the left to-morrow morning. Make immediate preparations so that your forces can be used north of the river if the enemy withdraw, or south if they should be required. Let all your men have two days' cooked rations in haversacks. During to-morrow night withdraw to the left of your line at Bermuda the force you propose sending south, unless otherwise ordered. It would be well to get ready as soon as you can to blow out the end of the canal.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 6, 1864—4 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding Army of the James:

I had sent you a cipher dispatch before receiving copy of your instructions to General Weitzel.* I think it advisable all embarkation should take place at Bermuda. The number of intrenching tools, I think, should be increased three or four times.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

DECEMBER 6, 1864—6.25 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Owing to some mistake in transmission I have not received your cipher dispatch. It will be more convenient to have the embarkation at Deep Bottom, and I think quite as much out of the sight of the enemy as at Bermuda, if that is the only reason. I am informed General Ingalls did not get your dispatch, having left Washington before it came. The intrenching tools shall be largely increased.†

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See Turner to Weitzel, p. 837.

† In General Butler's manifold letter-book this dispatch is marked "not sent."

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 6, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Cipher dispatch received. Orders will be given to carry out the orders contained in it.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., December 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. B. F. BUTLER,
Commanding Army of the James:

GENERAL: The first object of the expedition under General Weitzel is to close to the enemy the port of Wilmington. If successful in this, the second will be to capture Wilmington itself. There are reasonable grounds to hope for success, if advantage can be taken of the absence of the greater part of the enemy's forces now looking after Sherman in Georgia. The directions you have given for the numbers and equipment of the expedition are all right, except in the unimportant matter of where they embark and the amount of intrenching tools to be taken. The object of the expedition will be gained by effecting a landing on the mainland between Cape Fear River and the Atlantic north of the north entrance to the river. Should such landing be effected whilst the enemy still hold Fort Fisher and the batteries guarding the entrance to the river, then the troops should intrench themselves, and by co-operating with the navy effect the reduction and capture of those places. These in our hands, the navy could enter the harbor and the port of Wilmington would be sealed. Should Fort Fisher and the point of land on which it is built fall into the hands of our troops immediately on landing, then it will be worth the attempt to capture Wilmington by a forced march and surprise. If time is consumed in gaining the first object of the expedition, the second will become a matter of after consideration. The details for execution are intrusted to you and the officer immediately in command of the troops. Should the troops under General Weitzel fail to effect a landing at or near Fort Fisher they will be returned to the army operating against Richmond without delay.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 6, 1864.

Admiral PORTER:

What day can we start from the fortress? I wish not to keep troops on board transports a day longer than possible, as it will take some days to reach Savannah anyway. Is there anything I can aid you in?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

FORTRESS MONROE, *December 6, 1864—9.30 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Your telegram is received. The vessels to carry the ammunition will be ready in the morning completely filled. The ordnance officer here

at Fortress Monroe is doing everything he can to expedite matters. Most of our ammunition is here, and will commence loading up to-morrow. I will report perhaps to-morrow evening so that you can make your calculation when to embark. I think I can by to-morrow tell you within an hour when we can be ready. We are ready in every other respect.

D. D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 6, 1864.

General TERRY,
Commanding Twenty-fourth Corps:

Will you go over this evening to General Weitzel's headquarters and talk over with him concerning the defense of the line, as you will probably be in command of the whole to-morrow?

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 2. } HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

* * * * * * *

8. Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry is assigned to command of the corps during the temporary absence of the major-general commanding.

9. Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster is assigned to command of the First Division during the absence of General Terry.

By command of Maj. Gen. E. O. C. Ord:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

* * * * * * *

11. Brigadier-General Ames, with his command, is hereby relieved from duty with this corps. General Ames will report in person immediately to Major-General Weitzel, commanding Twenty-fifth Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Capt. J. R. ANGEL,
Battery K, Third New York Artillery:

You will send by 5 o'clock to-morrow morning one section of your battery to the redoubt now occupied by Lieutenant Martin's battery, to go into position and remain there during the temporary absence of the section of Battery F, Fifth U. S. Artillery.

Very respectfully,

C. C. ABELL,
Major Tenth New York Arty., Chief of Arty., 24th Army Corps.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Lieut. LEONARD MARTIN,
Commanding Battery F, Fifth U. S. Artillery:

You will send two sections of your battery to report to Brigadier-General Ludlow at Cox's house, near Fort Brady, at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning. One day's cooked rations only need be taken. Captain Angel will place two guns in the fort, with the two you leave in position.

Very respectfully,

C. C. ABELL,
Major Tenth New York Arty., Chief of Arty., 24th Army Corps.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3. HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 24TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Near Richmond, Va.,
December 6, 1864.

I. In obedience to Special Orders, No. 2, paragraph 9, from headquarters Twenty-fourth Army Corps, dated this day, the undersigned assumes temporary command of this division.

II. Official communications will, as heretofore, be addressed to Capt. Adrian Terry, assistant adjutant-general.

R. S. FOSTER,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 1. HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 24TH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 6, 1864.

* * * * * * *

III. The Thirteenth Indiana Volunteers having been assigned to this command, is ordered to report to Col. Louis Bell, commanding Third Brigade, for duty.

By order of Brigadier-General Ames:

CHAS. A. CARLETON,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 6, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. WEITZEL,
Commanding Twenty-fifth Corps:

GENERAL: The major general commanding has intrusted you with the command of the expedition about to embark for the North Carolina coast. It will consist of about 6,500 infantry, 2 batteries of artillery, and 50 cavalry. The effective men of General Ames' division, of the Twenty-fourth Corps, and General Paine's division, of the Twenty-fifth Corps, will furnish the infantry force. General Paine is under your orders. General Ames will be ordered to report to you in person immediately. You will confer with these officers and arrange details. Instruct them to select their best men, making your total force about 6,500

men. The chief of artillery, in conference with you, will designate the artillery to be taken. The horses of the batteries, except one horse for each officer and chief of piece, will be left. Take one set of wheel harness. Fifty men of Massachusetts cavalry will be ordered to report to you. Forty ambulances (two-horse), with necessary medical stores, have been selected for the expedition, which will be distributed on at least two boats. Take sixty rounds of ammunition on the men, 100 rounds in boxes to be distributed through the fleet. If your division trains do not furnish the necessary amount, the balance required will be furnished by chief of ordnance at the point of embarkation. Three hundred rounds of artillery ammunition per gun will be taken. So much of it as is not contained in limber-boxes and caissons will be loaded in boxes at point of embarkation. Let each regiment draw and take with it on transport five days' rations, three days' cooked meat. Twenty days' additional will be taken in at Fort Monroe, distributing it through the fleet. Field rations only will be taken. Two pack-mules for division and brigade headquarters will be allowed. Mounted officers will take but one horse for personal use. The chief quartermaster has been instructed to furnish 150 sets of mule harness. It is expected to get animals from the enemy's country. The chief quartermaster will also furnish a party of wharf-builders and a small amount of material for landings, &c. Thirty launches will be taken on at Fort Monroe. The chief signal officer has been instructed to order signal officers and men to report to you. Lieutenant Parsons, with a company of engineer soldiers, will report to you. Five hundred shovels, 250 axes, and 100 picks have been prepared. It is expected that the necessary transportation will be ready by to-morrow at Deep Bottom. You will report in person to the major-general commanding for further instructions.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS,
December 6, 1864.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding Twenty-fifth Corps:

Your communication to Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, assistant adjutant-general, relating to the indorsement of the major-general commanding upon a joint communication of yourself and General Ord, has been submitted to me. The explanations therein contained are entirely satisfactory. The facts therein stated could not have been known to me and take away the objectionable features of the communication. I beg leave to assure General Weitzel what he must have known that there was nothing of insult intended or expressed in the indorsement. General Weitzel's explanation might have been expressed in better temper, but I have too many faults of temper myself not to pardon them in others, and especially in a gentleman for whom I have so high an esteem as I have for General Weitzel. I am grieved that General Weitzel should for a moment suppose that I either intended to punish or insult him. General Weitzel will surely, on reflection, regret that he has so far misunderstood one who now, as ever, is happy to subscribe himself his friend,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864—9.10 a. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

The corps officer of the day reports a great deal of movement in my front last night, crossing pontoon bridge to this side, moving of wagons, and artillery.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864. (Received 3.50 p. m.)

General TURNER:

Will you please direct General Terry to relieve Ames and his pickets so as to let him withdraw from the line.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 6, 1864.

Brig. Gen. A. AMES,
Commanding Second Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

GENERAL: Major-General Weitzel directs that in case the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Army Corps move against the enemy you report back to Brevet Major-General Terry. If they do not, he directs that you hold your command in readiness to move across the James River to-morrow night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WILLIAM H. ABEL,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 6, 1864.

Col. C. S. RUSSELL,
Commanding Third Brigade:

COLONEL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you hold your command in readiness to move with two days' cooked rations in haversacks.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JAMES B. WEST,
Lieut., Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Col. U. Doubleday, commanding Second Brigade.)

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864. (Received 11.35 a. m.)

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

The other day you ordered Colonel Bates, commanding First Brigade, of Paine's division, which is now in reserve on the Bermuda line, to report to General Paine. He did so. Yesterday General Ferrero placed

one of these regiments back in the line, took away the regular brigade commissary, and he is making details for building hospital from it. Now, what I wish to know is, has General Ferrero any authority to do this, and was this not done in violation of your orders to have that brigade ready for a move?

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 6, 1864.

General FERRERO,
Commanding Bermuda Hundred:

Make no details from Colonel Bates' brigade. His brigade has been put under the order of General Paine and is no longer under your orders. Send all details or detachments that may be away from it now back to it. The brigade will be ordered to march to-day or to-morrow.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 6, 1864.

Col. D. BATES:

You will at once, on the receipt of this order, report with your brigade to Brigadier-General Paine. As your pickets cannot be relieved till after dark, you will leave a staff officer to collect them when they are relieved, and rejoin you. Please report at these headquarters when your brigade is marching by.

By order of Brigadier-General Ferrero:

GEO. A. HICKS,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

JAMESTOWN, *December 6, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The propeller Lizzie Freeman was scuttled and sunk by the rebels off Day's Point.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

JAMESTOWN ISLAND, *December 6, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

The rebels burnt a sutler's schooner and captured the propeller Lizzie Freeman, off Pagan Creek, between 11 and 12 o'clock last night. Captain Sawtell, superintendent of prison labor, was on board of a barge in tow of the Freeman at the time. He escaped uninjured; but one colored soldier was killed, two wounded, besides the mate of the barge. The steamer put off, either for the Chickahominy or Nansemond. Captain Fitch was near at the time. This boat went alongside of the

burning schooner, but did not board the barge. As the rebels had escaped, he went immediately to Smithfield to see operator, [and] with other parties landed last night to look out after the party committing this mischief. The wounded men will be sent up in the mail-boat. If the Jesup is within call, dispatch her immediately to the mouth of the Chickahominy. My boat is aground, but as soon as she is off I will go to the Nansemond. The Foster will return to Smithfield. The whole country to the southward of Pagan Creek should be scoured.

CHARLES K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

(Copy to Lieutenant-General Grant.)

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, Va., December 6, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER PICKET-LINE THIRD BRIGADE:

CAPTAIN: The general commanding the cavalry division directs that you exercise unusual vigilance to-night, and report promptly to these headquarters any movement that may be observed upon the part of the enemy now or to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. W. EVANS,
Colonel First Maryland Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, Va., December 6, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST MARYLAND CAVALRY:

COLONEL: Please be prepared to move your whole command at a moment's notice, with two days' rations and forage. It will not be necessary to disturb your men now, but an order to move may be expected before morning. You will leave in camp only the necessary camp guard. The picket from your regiment now on duty will remain until further orders, and measures should be taken to supply them with rations and forage.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. W. EVANS,
Colonel First Maryland Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

NEWPORT NEWS, *December 6, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Forces at Newport News: One company First U. S. Colored Cavalry, 97 men; detached men in quartermaster's department and commissary of subsistence department, 14; recruits, 24; total, 135. Officers: Lieut. Col. Loren Burritt, Eighth U. S. Colored Troops, commanding; Capt. W. H. Wild, Thirty-sixth U. S. Colored Troops, post adjutant; Lieut. W. L. Robinson, Twenty-second Colored Troops, quartermaster; Lieut. Edward Gallup, Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers, commissary; Maj. William H. Seip, First U. S. Colored Cavalry, provost-marshal; Asst. Surg. W. H. Gray, post surgeon; also Col. Jeptha Garrard, First U. S. Colored Cavalry, and four officers of his regiment.

LOREN BURRITT,
Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. Colored Troops, Commanding.

CITY POINT, *December 7, 1864—4 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Every day I receive letters from rebel deserters, who, in the absence of employment, have enlisted and now find themselves confronting their old regiments or acquaintances. I wish you would ask the Secretary of War to give me discretionary authority to transfer such as I think deserving of it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 7, 1864—10 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

General Warren, with a force of about 22,000 infantry, six batteries, and 4,000 cavalry, started this morning with the view of cutting the Weldon railroad as far south as Hicksford. Butler at the same time is holding a threatening attitude north of the James to keep the enemy from detaching from there. To-night he has moved 6,500 infantry and two batteries across James River, to be embarked at Bermuda Hundred, to co-operate with the navy in the capture of the mouth of Cape Fear River. Palmer has also moved, or is supposed to have moved, up the Roanoke to surprise Rainbow, a place the enemy are fortifying, and to strike the Weldon road, if successful, south of Weldon. To-day General Butler sent some troops across the river above Dutch Gap and captured the pickets, and now holds the opposite side of the river, it being a long bend overflown by high tide, with no outlet except along the levees on the bank. I think he will be able to hold it. This may prove of advantage in opening the canal, and is a decided advantage in holding the enemy, who have long been expecting an attack, when it is opened. It is calculated to keep the enemy at home whilst Warren is doing his work.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Major-General Warren, in command of four divisions of infantry, the cavalry, and five batteries of artillery, moved this morning at daylight to execute your instructions received yesterday. Had the present weather been anticipated I should have postponed the movement. As it is, if we are to have continued bad weather, it is as well it should be at the commencement of the expedition rather than a later period. The weather prevents our signal officers observing any movement of the enemy. The lines are now held in such manner that at short notice they can be left to the inclosed works and the picket-line. Major-General Crittenden reported yesterday and has been assigned to duty, under Major-General Parke, in the Ninth Corps.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 7, 1864.*
(Received 10.50 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The provost-marshal's Richmond agent brings information that Wilcox's division went south on Thursday last. Have you any information to corroborate this?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—11.20 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Our information from deserters, contrabands, and others, is conclusive that Wilcox is in my front, deserters from two of his brigades having been reported yesterday.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Major-General Crittenden tenders his resignation and asks for a leave pending action on it. Shall I grant the leave?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 7, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

Grant General Crittenden a leave of absence.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 7, 1864.*
(Received 5.15 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Has General Warren been heard from since he started? I know that if anything important had been heard it would have been reported, but I am anxious to learn even whether there is no obstacle to his advance.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—5.25 p. m. (Sent 5.32 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have received a dispatch* dated 11.30 a. m. from Warren's adjutant-general, and written at the crossing of Warwick Swamp by the Jerusalem plank road; reported the infantry nearly all passed at that time,

* See p. 855.

the column moving briskly and no detention or obstacle reported from the front. This is all the news I have received. Warren will strike the road below Stony Creek to prevent being detained by the works at that place. A single gun, supposed to be a signal gun by the enemy, was heard here between 12 and 1 p. m. No indications of any movement as yet.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward dispatch just received from signal officers. The Cox road runs nearly parallel to the South Side Railroad and between it and the Boydton plank. The movement reported is, I think, to meet an expected attack on the South Side Railroad.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

Major-General MEADE:

The following report from the Church road station is respectfully forwarded:

"At 4.30 p. m. a column of infantry occupying six minutes in passing a given point moved westward on the Boydton plank road. At 5 p. m. a column of infantry, followed by twenty-two ambulances and eight wagons, moved westward upon the Cox road. It was well closed, displayed thirteen colors, and was twenty-four minutes passing a point 10 degrees west of north. No changes in enemy's camps on this front."

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864.

Capt. P. SCHUYLER,
Assistant Provost-Marshal-General:

SIR: The commanding general directs that you order Lieutenant-Colonel Walsh, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, to report with all his available force, with the least practicable delay, to Colonel Kerwin, Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, at the headquarters Second Cavalry Division, for special service. The party should be prepared to be absent the day.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 7, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Deserters from Finegan's brigade report that Mahone's division left camp "three or four days ago" (cannot remember the day) and proceeded in the direction of Stony Creek, some four or five miles, and were then ordered back to their old quarters again. De-

serters from the First North Carolina Cavalry came in last evening; report no changes in enemy's position. Their brigade (Barringer's) went to Stony Creek last Friday, and returned again to old camps. Informants know nothing of any cavalry, dismounted or otherwise, having gone to Georgia. No movement of infantry known by these informants. Two female refugees from Petersburg came into our lines last evening. The particulars of their entree will be reported by Captain Schuyler. They report having seen two brigades of cavalry moving in a southerly direction yesterday afternoon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following deserters have just been forwarded to this office: Four from Twenty-second North Carolina, Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division; one from Eighteenth North Carolina, Lane's brigade, Wilcox's division; two from First Tennessee, Archer's brigade, Heth's division. From them we learn that no movements have taken place in either of the above divisions. It was rumored in their camp that Heth's division was about to be transferred to Georgia, but up to 11 o'clock last evening no marching orders had been issued. Deserters from Archer left the trenches at that hour, and are positive of this.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CITY POINT, *December 7, 1864.*

BABCOCK:

Information from Richmond to effect that Wilcox (and it is supposed Heth's division also) went south last Thursday. They may have left their pickets, but do you hear anything from them? Force gone estimated at 12,000. I came within 600 of you on general estimate before I received yours.

J. MCENTEE,
Captain, etc.

[Indorsement.]

Captain MCENTEE,
City Point:

From deserters received yesterday and day before we have every reason to believe that all the divisions of Hill's corps are still in our front. Since last Thursday we have had deserters from Weisiger's and Finegan's brigades, of Mahone's division; Archer's brigade, of Heth's division, and Lane's and McGowan's brigades, of Wilcox's division. From other information by contrabands and cavalry deserters we believe Heth and Wilcox still here.

Yours, &c.,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 7, 1864.

Captain MCENTEE,
City Point:

Deserters from Archer, Lane, and Scales came in last evening. It is almost positive there has been no movement in Hill's corps up to 11 o'clock last evening. These men left the trenches and no marching orders had been given at that hour.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 7, 1864.

Captain MCENTEE,
Provost-Marshal-General's Department, City Point:

Be very careful about reporting any part of Hill's corps or Johnson's division as having gone south unless you have later information than last Thursday. Deserters from Heth, Mahone, Wilcox, and Johnson yesterday, and other information very conclusive that no force has left our front.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Lieut. WILLIAM S. STRYKER:

Camps unchanged and all quiet.

CAROTHERS.

Owing to fog no observations can be made this a. m.

HOLMAN.

No report from either of the other stations received. The unfavorable condition of the atmosphere would prevent any observations this a. m.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain and Signal Officer.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
December 7, 1864.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

Owing to fog was not able to make any observations till 12 m. No change observed in the enemy's lines on this front. All quiet in their camps. Have not been able to see the Cox road to-day.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Lieut. WILLIAM S. STRYKER,
Adjutant:

I can see no changes in the enemy's lines in this front.

JORDAN.

Nothing worthy of report has been seen this p. m. on account of the dense fog.

B. W. MARCY.

Could not see the enemy's lines from 9 a. m. till 3 p. m. All quiet.

CAROTHERS.

On account of the state of the atmosphere could make no observations this a. m. All quiet this p. m. The following were intercepted:

STEUART'S FRONT—3.45 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Owing to the weather we are unable to make any observations on north side. Everything quiet on this side. Some little picket-firing in our front from Dunn's. All quiet. Small increase of tents on new camp to left of open space. One steamer off Strahan's lower landing. Gun-boat in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

4.45 P. M.

Major P.:

I report since it cleared away one train of thirteen box-cars and fourteen wagons have passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left. On rear of same battery going toward City Point, one train of nine box-cars and five wagons.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 331. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864.

1. Leave of absence is granted to the following-named officer: Maj. Gen. T. L. Crittenden, U. S. Volunteers, for seven days.

2. Maj. Gen. T. L. Crittenden having, in compliance with paragraph 3 of Special Orders, No. 414, of November 23, 1864, headquarters of the Army, reported to the major-general commanding, will report to Major-General Parke, commanding Ninth Army Corps, for assignment to a command in that corps.

* * * * * * *

5. The chiefs of staff departments will have the requisite arrangements made to remove the public property in their charge within the defenses of City Point at very short notice should this become necessary. No surplus supplies will be accumulated for the present at the depots along the lines of this army. A sufficient number of the sick in hospital will be sent to City Point to admit of the ready transportation to that place of the remainder, in the event of the breaking up of the hospitals here.

6. The troops serving at these headquarters, consisting of the Engineer Battalion, detachment of Engineer Brigade, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, Sixty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, One hundred and fourteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, will be held in readiness to move at

short notice, and the commanders of the several organizations will report to Col. A. H. Tippin, Sixty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, the senior officer present, who in the event of a movement will command the troops.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade, &c., City Point:

SIR: The major-general commanding directs me to notify you that circumstances may require the movement of all your available infantry at a few hours' notice. They will be prepared to make the movement with sixty rounds of ammunition and four days' short rations on the person. I am also directed to inform you that the cavalry force in your front has been removed, but that the roads approaching it are scouted and patrolled.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. F. BARSTOW,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—8.10 a. m.

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

A messenger will leave here in a few moments with an answer to your note of last evening. Please defer the matter of supplies for the works you allude to until you receive the note.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—9 a. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the commanding general to say in answer to your note of 11.30 [11] p. m. last evening, that should it become necessary to hold the line of intrenchments depending principally on the inclosed works it is not proposed to hold the works in the rear to the left of Fort Cummings. In the event of the happening of the contingency alluded to, probably much the same arrangements would be made as were adopted at the time the army moved in the direction of the South Side Railroad. For the present, however, the commanding general thinks it best to have garrisons and artillery in the rear works of your line, including Fort Dushane.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864—11 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: The following change in the disposition of the troops of this corps have been made since last report: Major-General Mott reported and moved as directed. Garrisons and artillery have been placed in the rear works, except Fort Dushane, to which they have been ordered, and an infantry picket-line has been directed to be established from Fort Dushane to the left of the picket-line of the Second Corps. Six deserters came in last night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Please report what arrangements you have made for holding your lines in the event of a movement being ordered; what number of men in round numbers will be left in the lines, and what number and organizations available for movement; also what batteries and the number of guns not required in the front line. In the event of any active operations all trains, &c., must be sent inside the lines at City Point, as was done on a previous occasion. Please instruct signal officers, pickets, and others to be as vigilant as possible in noting and promptly reporting any movements of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

(Same to Major-General Parke.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864. (Sent 3 p. m.)

General A. A. HUMPHREYS, *Commanding Second Corps:*

The commanding general desires that the troops that will remain in the works in the event of the line being held by intrenched works alone keep constantly on hand eight days' full rations.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864—6 p. m. (Received 6.15 p. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

The following report from signal officer just received. No other movements observed to-day:

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION—5 p. m.

Captain THICKSTUN:

There is a column of infantry, followed by twenty-two ambulances and eight wagons, moving westward on the Cox road. The column was well closed; displayed thirteen colors, and was twenty-four minutes in passing a point 10 degrees west of north. No change in enemy's camps on the front.

VAN B. SLEEPER,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—7 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have no answer to my telegram of inquiry of 11 a. m. this day. Please send me the desired information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Major-General MEADE, *Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

In preliminary compliance with your directions by telegraph this morning, I have to report that I have proposed to leave 4,600 men in the lines, apportioned as follows: General Wheaton's division, from Battery 24 to Fort Wadsworth, inclusive, 1,400 men; General Seymour's division, from Fort Wadsworth to slashing beyond Fort Keene, 750 men; Major-General Gibbon's division, from left of Wheaton to right of Fort Fisher, 900 men; Major-General Miles' division from Fort Fisher to Fort Cummings, both inclusive, 1,550 men; total (six miles of line), 4,600 men. Perhaps this might be reduced a few hundred men. The force available for movement will then be Major General Miles' division (First), 5,000 men, leaving the Third or Fourth Brigade in the intrenchments; Major-General Gibbon's division (Second), 2,500 men, leaving probably the Second Brigade in the intrenchments; Picket of Third Division, 800 men; Brigadier-General Seymour's division, 3,000 men (organizations not reported yet; strength of division given as 3,800); Brigadier-General Wheaton's division, 2,000 men (organizations and strength not yet reported; strength of division stated to be about 3,500); total available for movement, 13,300 men; left in intrenchments, 4,600 men; total in intrenchments and in reserve, say 18,000 men. The batteries in the rear works available for movement with the troops are: Second Corps, Eleventh New York, 6 guns (3-inch rifled); Second Corps, Twelfth New York, 4 guns (light 12-pounders); Second Corps, First Rhode Island, 6 guns (light 12-pounders); Sixth Corps, First New Jersey (section of), 2 guns (light 12-pounders); Fifth Corps, First New York, 4 guns (3-inch rifles); total, 22; of which 12 are light 12-pounders and 10 are 3-inch rifles. I inclose copy of instructions issued respecting which I desire instructions, if not in accordance with your intentions. Will send report in detail of garrisons, commanders, &c. It is intended to leave the intrenchments held by Sixth Corps in command of ranking officer of that corps and the same of Second Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

In compliance with the instructions from the headquarters Army of the Potomac to arrange this command so that the lines will be held with the minimum force, depending principally upon the inclosed works, and to hold the rest of the troops ready as reserves to make any movement that may be ordered, the following dispositions will be made:

1. Brigadier-General Wheaton, commanding First Division, Sixth Corps, will assign 150 enlisted men for the garrison of Fort Howard, 300 enlisted for the garrison of Fort Wadsworth, and 150 men to each

of the inclosed batteries on his front; 350 men for the picket-line and 300 men for picket relief and contingencies, all with proper complement of officers.

2. Brig. Gen. T. Seymour, commanding Third Division, Sixth Corps, will assign 150 enlisted men as a garrison for Fort Keene, 300 enlisted men for pickets, and 300 enlisted men for picket relief and contingencies, all with proper complement of officers.

3. Major-General Gibbon, commanding Second Division, Second Army Corps, will assign 250 enlisted men to garrison Fort Urmston, 75 enlisted men for Fort Conahey, 300 enlisted men for picket, and, as near as may be, 300 enlisted men for picket relief contingencies, with proper complement of officers.

4. Brevet Major General Miles, commanding First Division, Second Corps, will assign 150 enlisted men for the garrison of Fort Fisher, 175 for the garrison of Fort Welch, 75 for the garrison of Fort Gregg, 75 for garrison of Fort Sampson, 175 for garrison of Fort Cummings, 600 for picket, and 300 for picket relief and contingencies, with proper complement of officers.

5. In making these assignments, regimental and brigade organizations will be preserved as far as practicable. An officer will be assigned to command the force of each division, whose name, rank, and date of commission will be at once reported to these headquarters. The contingent force will be posted near the most important works on each front.

6. The artillery now posted in the forts named will form the artillery garrison, and will have 150 rounds of ammunition per gun.

7. The infantry will have 200 rounds of ammunition placed in the forts.

8. Six days' rations of bread, sugar, and coffee, four days' salt meat, two days' beef on hoof, and two days' salt for all the troops assigned to garrisons, &c., in this order, will be kept on the person and stored in or close to the forts and inclosed batteries.

9. Division commanders will immediately report the organizations assigned as herein directed, with their strength and the names of the commanders of the forts, pickets, &c., as well as the name of the commander of the whole assigned force from each division. Brigadier-General Seymour and Brigadier-General Wheaton will, in addition, report the strength of their divisions, including the above details.

10. Lieutenant-Colonel Hazard, chief of artillery, Second Corps, will report the names of the batteries and of their commanders, with the number of guns assigned to the forts; also the same of the batteries in the rear work and in reserve.

11. The troops and batteries of this command, other than those assigned to hold the intrenchments, will be held ready to move at very brief notice, with four days' bread, sugar, and coffee, and three days' salt and one day's salt meat on the person, three days' beef on hoof, two days' bread and small rations in a supply train, with two days' beef on hoof with the train; sixty rounds of infantry ammunition on the person, forty rounds in wagons; the full supply of artillery ammunition; one-half the ambulances, and all the stretchers; one medicine and one hospital wagon to each brigade; the intrenching tools, the light headquarters wagons and pack-mules, and four days' forage; one wagon for each brigade for commissary supplies to officers, and forage for officers' horses of the brigade. All other trains will be held ready to move within the lines at City Point.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Your dispatch and orders per orderly received and approved.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding:

I am directed by the chief engineer Army of the Potomac to state that he leaves to yourself to designate space to be clear in rear of the line. The general commanding desires that 800 yards be left clear to the front of the line.

F. HARWOOD,
Captain of Engineers.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Paragraph 8, circular of this date, is changed so as to read: Eight days' rations of bread, sugar, coffee, six days' salt meat, two days' beef on hoof, and two days' salt for all the troops assigned as garrisons, &c., will be kept on the person and stored in or close to the forts and inclosed batteries.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

So much of paragraph 1, circular of this date, as directs Brigadier-General Wheaton, First Division, Sixth Corps, to garrison Fort Wadsworth is rescinded. The garrison of that work will be furnished as soon after daylight to morrow as practicable by the commanding officer Third Division, Sixth Corps, who, in addition thereto, will be required to extend his picket-line half way between Fort Wadsworth and Battery No. 26.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 311. HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. In accordance with Special Orders, No. 330, headquarters Army of the Potomac, current series, Major-General Gibbon, Brevet Major-General Miles, and Brigadier-General Seymour will at once remove all huts, stables, corrals, and other structures inside of the intrenchments,

within 100 feet of the same, each on his own front, from Fort Wadsworth to Fort Cummings, so as to leave a clear space 100 feet wide along the intrenched line. All structures of similar character in position put up by the artillery will be removed by them.

In addition, Major-General Gibbon, commanding Second Division, will at the same time send sufficient details to remove all similar structures in front of the rear intrenchments from Fort Siebert to Fort Clarke as far as 800 yards in front of the same, and to clear the space of 100 feet in width inside of the same part of the line.

Brevet Major-General Miles, First Division, Second Corps, will also send details to remove all similar structures in front of the rear-line intrenchments within the space of 800 yards between Fort Cummings and Fort Siebert, and to clear the space of 100 feet in width inside the same part of the line.

The artillery will also remove all structures put up by them within the specified places outside and inside of the rear line of intrenchments. Division commanders and chiefs of artillery will report when the work is complete.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

The commanding officer of the following-named batteries will have their commands in readiness to move at very short notice after daylight of December 8. They will at once send to Captain Langdon, commissary of subsistence, for rations to bring them up to the following amount—four days' bread, coffee, and sugar, three days' salt, and one day's salt meat on the person: Battery B, First Rhode Island Artillery, Eleventh New York Battery; Twelfth New York Battery.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 593. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The garrisons of Forts Fisher, Welch, Gregg, Sampson, and Cummings will at once be supplied with 200 rounds of ammunition per man, and six days' rations from to-morrow morning. The chief commissary of subsistence and the acting ordnance officer of the division will cause the necessary supplies to be furnished by their respective departments.

By command of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. 4TH BRIG., FIRST DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

The command, except the One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, will be held in readiness to move at brief notice. Regimental commanders will see that their men are supplied with sixty

rounds of ammunition on their persons. In the event of a movement the commanding officer of the One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers will at once report to Colonel Nugent, commanding Second Brigade.

By order of Colonel Mulholland:

J. WENDEL MUFFLY,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: The Second Brigade of this division (643 enlisted men), increased by 282 men from the First Brigade, is assigned to the line held by this division. Col. M. Murphy, Sixty-ninth [One hundred and eighty-second] New York Volunteers, commands; his rank is from the 8th of November, 1862. Col. J. P. McIvor, One hundred and seventieth New York Volunteers, will be in command of Fort Urmston, and Lieutenant-Colonel Coonan, Sixty-ninth [One hundred and eighty-second] New York Volunteers, of Fort Conahey.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN GIBBON,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 87. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Colonel Murphy, commanding Second Brigade, will at once move that portion of his brigade not in the works to the line now occupied by the First and Third Brigades, relieving the garrisons of Forts Urmston (250 men) and Conahey (75 men). The First and Third Brigades will vacate a sufficient number of the huts along the line to accommodate the men of the Second Brigade. The Second Brigade will be supplied with 200 rounds of ammunition and six days' rations. The First and Third Brigades will be ready to move at short notice, and an inspection will be made at once to see that the men are provided with sixty rounds of ammunition, and four days' provisions, as heretofore ordered, will be kept ready for issue. To-morrow morning Colonel Murphy will relieve the whole division picket-line by a detail from his brigade. As soon as the division moves, Colonel Murphy will withdraw the garrisons of Forts Siebert and Clarke, and place them in the front line of works.

By command of Major-General Gibbon:

JNO. M. NORVELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

The following will be the order of march to-morrow: First, Second Brigade, General Pierce; second, Third Brigade, Colonel McAllister; third, Battery B, Fourth U. S. Artillery, followed by the ambulances;

fourth, General De Trobriand will have charge of the whole quartermaster's and bridge train, making the necessary dispositions for protecting its flanks and rear.

The division will move as soon as the other two divisions of the Fifth Corps, which are ordered to move at 2 a. m., have passed.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

CHAS. F. MOORE,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Warwick Creek, December 7, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I have the honor to report that at 11 a. m. nearly the whole of three divisions, with the artillery and pontoon train, had passed the bridge over Warwick Creek. The column was moving on briskly and no detention reported ahead. General Warren has passed to head of column.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Brevet Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864—6 p. m.

General MEADE:

With the exception of delays in crossing Warwick Swamp, we got on well to-day. The rain has not hurt the roads. Gregg and Crawford bivouac at Sussex Court-House to-night, giving all a chance of a good rest. I shall be crossing the Nottoway all night. I shall strike the railroad near Jarratt's to-morrow, keeping my command all together. From there I shall destroy up and down. The Bolling Bridge will not let me [*sic*].

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Lieutenant NUMAN,
Second New York Mounted Rifles:

LIEUTENANT: You will bivouac to-night on the north bank of the river and not cross it at all. As soon as the bridge is taken up, which will be about daybreak, you will proceed with three companies (your own squadron and one other to be designated by Captain Stevenson) back along the road we came, gathering up all stragglers and deploying your men sufficiently for that purpose. Take them to General Meade's headquarters and report to General Williams, assistant adjutant-general, for disposition of them. Show him this order.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 158. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *December 7, 1864—5.50 p. m.*

I. Generals Griffin and Ayres will remain in their present bivouac, with their artillery and ambulances, until all the rest of the army is across. They will receive further information when to move. Advantage will be taken of that to water, rest, and feed the animals.

II. Generals Crawford and Gregg will proceed to Sussex this evening and camp there.

III. General Mott will cross after General Crawford with all his trains and camp in the first open field after crossing the pontoon bridge. The train under Colonel Thomas will follow General Mott and camp in the first open field after crossing. Headquarters will be just south of the bridge for the night.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 159. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *December 7, 1864—9.15 p. m.*

The following will be the order of movement for to-morrow:

I. General Gregg will set out at 4 a. m. and proceed direct for Jarratt's Station. He will picket every road coming in from the flanks as we advance with a strong force, to remain until the rear of the column has passed.

II. He will be immediately followed by General Crawford's division.

III. General Griffin, followed by General Ayres, will set out at 2 a. m. and proceed on to overtake General Crawford.

IV. As soon as all is over the pontoon train will be taken up and join the train of Colonel Thomas, chief quartermaster, near General Mott's division.

V. General Mott will guard the main train to-morrow, and will make such disposition with his division as will protect it, Colonel Thomas and the officers of the bridge train reporting to him.

VI. The brigade of General Ayres, marching with the train to-day, will rejoin his division.

VII. If any part of the column finds itself halted by any obstructions in front, the troops will be massed and the artillery and trains parked so as not to obstruct the coming forward of artillery and troops in rear. Headquarters will be at the head of the column during the day.

By order of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

General HUMPHREYS:

I have the honor to report the strength of my pickets as being 280 men. The whole of my division now occupies the line formerly held by General Ayres' division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Brigadier-General SEYMOUR,
Commanding Third Division, Sixth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you send 600 men as a garrison for Fort Dushane, to encamp in or near the fort, as they find it best, and to picket down the Weldon railroad, to connect with the pickets of the Third Division of the Second Corps, the left of which you will find on the railroad, about one mile and a half from Fort Dushane. The picketing force need not exceed 200 men. The pickets should extend to the left of Fort Dushane, so as to cover that work.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864—11.51 a. m.

Colonel DUANE,
Chief Engineer, Army of the Potomac:

It is reported that from the listening gallery under Fort Stedman the enemy could be distinctly heard working all last night. I do not know whether these sounds have ever been heard before or not, and therefore report it so that the matter may be investigated by some one having some experience in mining.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864—1.43 p. m. (Received 2.45 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In reply to telegram of major-general commanding of 11 a. m., I have available, to be drawn from the line in the event of a movement, 2,600 men from the Second Division (Potter's), and about 900 from the First Division (Willcox's), leaving about 6,500 men to hold the picket-line and inclosed works. With the Third Division I will have about 7,500 men available for a movement. The chief of artillery reports he will have twenty guns available, ten rifled and ten 12-pounders. I propose leaving General Willcox in command of the line.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 7, 1864—2.35 p. m. (Received 2.57 p. m.)

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general desires that the troops that are to be left in the line should keep constantly on hand eight days' full rations.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HANCOCK STATION, *December 7, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

General PARKE,
Ninth Army Corps:

I will have seven regiments available for a movement, possibly more, numbering 2,600 men. First Brigade—Forty-fifth Pennsylvania, Thirty-fifth Massachusetts, and Thirty-ninth New Jersey, over 1,300; Second Brigade—Second Maryland, Sixth New Hampshire, One hundred and seventy-ninth New York, and One hundred and eighty-sixth New York, over 1,200. Over 2,400 left in lines.

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 7, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Brigadier-General Ludlow made a dash upon the other side of the river opposite Dutch Gap and captured a half dozen of the enemy's pickets and drove the rest away. We now hold that bank, and Major Michie is engaged in making his surveys and soundings preparatory to opening the canal.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 7, 1864—2.10 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Good for Ludlow. Is it possible now to take advantage of the lodgment effected by him to carry the heights south of the river? Please have this matter looked into. Warren moved at daylight this morning.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 7, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Respectfully forwarded for the information of Lieutenant-General Grant. Deserters say that Hoke's division moved away last night, but they did not know where. The enemy are strengthening their forces opposite Dutch Gap. The signal officer on Cobb's Hill tower reports that at 2 p. m. a train of twelve cars loaded with troops passed Port Walthall Junction toward Petersburg; it was an extra train.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

DECEMBER 7, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Weitzel's command is encamped at signal tower near Point of Rocks and awaits orders. Admiral Porter telegraphs he will be ready by to-morrow.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 7, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Let General Weitzel get off as soon as possible. We don't want the navy to wait an hour.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

DECEMBER 7, 1864.

Colonel DODGE:

The Baltic is at Annapolis. Get her. We shall need her.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

BERMUDA, *December 7, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER:

Shall I make the necessary arrangements to go with you, as was proposed?

Respectfully,

GEO. S. DODGE,
Colonel and Chief Quartermaster.

[Indorsement.]

Yes. Troops will begin to embark to-morrow.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 7, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer on Crow's Nest tower reports that all the rams are coming down the river, and that Cox's Ferry and batteries to enemy's left are firing at Fort Brady.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

[Indorsement.]

General TURNER:

Send to Weitzel.

B. F. BUTLER.

FORT BRADY, VA., *December 7, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that three rebel rams appeared about 4 p. m. to-day, steaming down past Semmes' battery, in plain view from my work. Opened on them with the 100-pounders, using solid shot. Am confident that several must have struck them. Cannot judge of the damage inflicted. Their land batteries opened on us,

keeping up the fire until after dark. Strange to say their two best shots were made in the obscurity of nightfall. One struck in the exterior slope of the parapet, about three feet below the crest, passed through some ten feet of sand, destroyed the revetment, prostrating two or three men at work on the 100-pounder, but injuring none seriously. Another struck in the sole of the embrasure of one of the 30-pounders, passed through the revetment of the *genouillère*, struck the end of the axle outside of the hub, breaking it entirely off, knocked off one corner of the magazine, struck just in front of one of my houses, ricochetted through the end above the logs, and lodged in one of the bunks without bursting. Undoubtedly the enemy sent down their boats expecting the opening of the canal, an infantry attack having been made by us this forenoon across the river in front of it. Shall have everything repaired early to-morrow. Shall take much pains with Mr. Batterson.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS SIEGE BATTERIES,
Before Petersburg, Va., December 7, 1864.

First Lieut. B. P. LEARNED,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Siege Artillery:

SIR: I received a note from Col. John C. Tidball, chief of artillery, Ninth Army Corps, about 2 o'clock this p. m., requesting me to come to his headquarters, he wishing to see me on business of importance. On my reporting he informed me that a portion of the army were on the eve of a move; that probably no more troops would be left on this front than were on a former occasion when the Second Corps were here. He suggested that it would be well to move the guns from No. 17 to the new work to-night. I asked him if he would be kind enough to furnish me transportation. He said he could furnish me the horses, but thought all the wagons were packed with subsistence, &c. This was all the change that was talked of, excepting he mentioned that should all the infantry leave but those in the inclosed works he thought it would be best, for the time being, to transfer the two Coehorn mortars in Battery No. 8 to Fort McGilvery, and Captain Pride's four Coehorns from No. 12 to Fort Haskell. I have taken the responsibility of moving the guns from No. 17, as the change had been previously talked of. Should Colonel Abbot think it advisable to make other changes he will undoubtedly inform me. Will Captain Faxon send five wagons to report as soon as possible to change the ammunition and company property to-night? Please have the wagon-master report at my quarters before he goes to No. 17.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. F. BROOKER,
Major First Connecticut Artillery, Commanding Siege Batteries.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 3. } HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

* * * * * * *

3. The troops of the Second Division remaining with this corps are temporarily attached to the Third Division, Brigadier-General Devens,

under command of Col. G. F. Granger, Ninth Maine Volunteers. Colonel Granger will immediately report to Brigadier-General Devens. General Devens will organize his command as most convenient.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 7, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. R. HAWLEY,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to request that in the event of any alarm in the course of the night or early to-morrow you will at once, without further orders, extend your command to the left along the intrenchments, so as to be prepared to assist in repulsing any attack that may be made upon that portion of the lines vacated this afternoon by the Second Division, moving toward the point that appears to be threatened.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

[ADRIAN TERRY,]
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER:

The following has been received:

SECOND DIVISION, TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS—3.30 a. m.

Capt. D. D. WHEELER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: The officers commanding the pickets in my front report the enemy moving; artillery can be heard crossing the pontoon on the James River, but in what direction cannot be distinguished.

WM. BIRNEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 7, 1864.

General WEITZEL or HECKMAN,
Headquarters Twenty-fifth Corps:

The signal officer reports the rebel rams coming down the river.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

DECEMBER 7, 1864—9 p. m.

Major-General WEITZEL,
Commanding:

You will embark your command, and get them off to Fortress Monroe as soon as possible after daylight to-morrow morning.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

POINT OF ROCKS, *December 7, 1864.*
(Received 9.45 p. m.)

Major-General BUTLER:

Your dispatch received.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. } HDQRS. ARTY. BRIG., 25TH ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

During the temporary absence of Lieut. Col. R. H. Jackson, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Artillery Brigade, Twenty-fifth Army Corps. Communications will be addressed as before.

L. L. LANGDON,
Captain, First Artillery, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 7, 1864.

Col. SAMUEL P. SPEAR,
Commanding Brigade, Cavalry Division:

COLONEL: The general commanding the division directs that to-morrow (the 8th) morning, at 8 o'clock, you send a scout toward the enemy's lines in the direction of the junction of the Long Bridge and Charles City roads. Send an officer well acquainted with this kind of duty, and instruct him to gather all possible information of any movement of the enemy. He will report direct to these headquarters on his return.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEO. H. SCHENCK,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 7, 1864.

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Cavalry Division:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that nothing of particular note has occurred upon the picket-line of this brigade for the four days commencing on the 3d and ending on the 7th instant. The vedettes have been occasionally fired upon by the enemy on the Darbytown road, and in the afternoon a light skirmish occurred between the relief and a small party of the enemy, in which the latter were driven off. A deserter

came in on the 4th, and two public horses were recovered on the line last night. The enemy appears to have some cavalry in our front now, and much cheering was heard in their camps last night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. W. EVANS,
Colonel First Maryland Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 8, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

The Secretary of War authorizes such transfer of rebel deserters as you may deem proper. The transfers should be reported to Adjutant-General of the Army to be noted on rolls. There are still over 2,000 enlisted rebel prisoners at Rock Island who have received bounties, but are of no use.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 8, 1864.

Hon. C. A. DANA,
Assistant Secretary of War:

SIR: Major Casey reported to me this morning in conformity with the telegraphic order from the War Department of the 4th instant, being in furtherance of the matter communicated in my letter to you of the 3d instant.

I have now to ask a letter to Admiral Porter requesting him to give Major Casey such information and facilities as will enable him fully to report to you every detail connected with the important enterprise now in course of execution, of exploding a large quantity of powder near Fort Fisher or Caswell, and the results of the same in the effect produced upon the works, surrounding country, and otherwise as the explosion shall have produced an effect, by the formation of a crater, the projectile matter and violent action upon the atmosphere.

I would further request that Admiral Porter afford such accommodations on board some vessel of his command as comports with Major Casey's rank in the army, so far as the important duties intrusted to the admiral will permit.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICHD. DELAFIELD,
Brigadier-General and Chief Engineer.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 8, 1864.

Maj. THOMAS LINCOLN CASEY,
Corps of Engineers, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: The naval expedition now fitting out under command of Admiral Porter is about to make an attack upon Fort Caswell or Fort Fisher, mouth of Cape Fear River. A part of the preparation now making is for the explosion of about 350 tons of gunpowder in a vessel to be con-

ducted to the nearest point such vessel can approach the fort, and there being exploded, to do such injury to the fort, its armament, and garrison as will cause its ready capture. The War Department has been informed of all the explosions of large quantities of powder and the results within the knowledge of this department, and which you have seen in my letter of the 18th of November. It is the wish of the War Department that this interesting and important operation be witnessed by an officer of the Corps of Engineers, to the end that every fact connected with the preparation of the powder vessel and its results be communicated for its information.

Your attention will be given to this subject with the view of obtaining such information. The effects and extent of the crater caused by the explosion of this volume of powder, the projectiles thrown from the debris of the vessel, and any tamping that may be used, and the effect of the blast of powder on the nearer and distant objects, as well as the enemy's works, will command your attention so far as may be in your power. After gaining all the information that may be in your power on this subject, you will return and report the facts to this department for the information of the Secretary of War. A letter* is inclosed to Admiral Porter from the War Department, requesting him to afford you such facilities as may be in his power to obtain the information desired by the Secretary of War. You will show this communication to the admiral, at the same time presenting my best wishes for the most satisfactory results of this interesting and important enterprise.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICHD. DELAFIELD,
General and Chief Engineer.

PORTSMOUTH, *December 8, 1864—3 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Miami has been ordered to City Point. Three gun-boats to patrol the river between Pagan Creek, Ragged Island Creek, and Point of Rocks. All the vessels will row guard at night, and every precaution taken to prevent surprise. There are sixty-five sailors with ten cart-loads of powder at Smithfield, on or near Pagan Creek. They came from Richmond around by Franklin. These are the men doing the damage.

D. D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—8.30 a. m. (Sent 8.55 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The accompanying dispatch† was received after midnight last night and is forwarded for your information. Warren will strike the road lower down than I designed.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* Not found.

† See Warren to Meade, 6 p. m. 7th, p. 855.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—10.20 a. m. (Sent 10.35 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward for your information two dispatches* just received. I have made arrangements to hold my lines with about 11,000 men, leaving about 22,000 men and thirty guns available for any movement.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—10.45 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have about 700 mounted men whom I will push out on the left on the Vaughan road to see if they can ascertain or hear anything of the movements of the enemy.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 8, 1864.*
(Received 10.55 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

If the enemy send off two divisions after Warren, what is there to prevent completing the investment of Petersburg with your reserve?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—11.15 a. m. (Sent 11.50 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I don't think the information of the sending of two divisions after Warren is as yet sufficiently positive to justify an attempt to complete the investment of Petersburg. It would appear that Mahone only had moved, though it was reported Wilcox was to; at sundown yesterday he had not. Besides, there is as yet no evidence that Mahone has gone after Warren. He was in reserve and may have moved only to save an expected attack on the South Side road. The cavalry we are sending out will, perhaps, bring us positive information of any considerable movement against Warren. Unless there is such, and even then, I hardly think my reserves will be sufficient to complete the investment and hold the new line against the forces in front, and against a probable attack in the rear from the troops detached after Warren, should they return on being advised of the danger. I should therefore be in favor of waiting more positive information before making a movement.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

* See Sleeper to Fisher, 9.20 a. m., and Carothers' dispatch in Dillingham to Stryker, 10.25 a. m., pp. 869, 871.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 8, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I would not favor moving to the left unless the most positive evidence was had that the enemy had moved a very considerable force away from Petersburg. Then it would be uncertain whether it would not be better to attempt to force a weak place in his lines.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—7.20 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send you all the information* received since last dispatch. You will see how conflicting it is. Troops reported coming in cars from Richmond to Petersburg, then reported moving from Petersburg to Butler's front; again moving westward on the Cox and Boydton plank, and then others reported leaving the lines near lead-works and going into Petersburg. No large bodies reported moving in any direction. I have not yet heard from the cavalry sent down the Vaughan road. A squadron of cavalry has just come in from the Nottoway River, where they were left by Warren until his column should pass, and then directed to return here collecting stragglers. The commanding officer reports the pontoon bridge over the Nottoway was taken up just before daylight, when he immediately left. He brings in 850 stragglers. He estimates the distance to the bridge twenty miles. He has no news other than above. Saw and heard nothing of the enemy on his return.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 8, 1864.*
(Received 8.30 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Hoke's division left General Butler's front toward Petersburg last night. I suppose there is no doubt about this fact. I hope your cavalry will be able to learn whether there has been any movement toward Warren. When this is known we will know what to do.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—9 p. m. (Sent 9.40 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The cavalry have returned. They found a force at the crossing of Hatcher's Run by the Vaughan road, said to be Young's brigade of cavalry, which prevented any farther progress, and, as it was nearly dark when they reached there, the officer withdrew with a loss of some five or six wounded. I have directed [him] to start at daylight to-morrow and try the Halifax road crossing, which is lower down, but his force is so

* See Fisher to Meade, 4 p. m. and 6 p. m., p. 871.

small that if the enemy undertakes to hold Hatcher's Run with his cavalry he can easily bar the passage to my small command, which is only about a regiment. I think it very probable Hoke has come over [to] this side, leaving Field and Kershaw north of the James. I am quite satisfied Lee will offer a stubborn resistance to any attempt on the South Side road. I don't think he can detach a force so far as will at all jeopardize Warren. He may harass and interrupt the work of destroying the railroad, but Warren has roads to the eastward with means of crossing the Nottoway at any point, and can always withdraw. The difficulty of taking advantage of Lee's detaching against Warren is to get positive information of the fact in time. The only certain information will be Warren's report, unless deserters should come in to-night or to-morrow morning. I send you the last report* from signal officer.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 8, 1864—10 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch received. I think it will be well to send out a division of infantry to help forcing a crossing of Hatcher's Run and find out what the enemy are doing. Send them in the morning. The enemy are playing a game of bluff with us now, and as we hold the strong hand we want to take advantage of it. Any further movement than that in support of the cavalry crossing Hatcher's Run will depend upon developments.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—10.30 p. m. (Sent 10.40 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Brigadier-General Ledlie, after an absence of four months on sick leave, has to-day returned to this army. After the reported conduct of this officer at the assault on the enemy's line on the 30th of July last, where it is well understood he failed to accompany his division when it advanced, and for other reasons, I am constrained to request he be relieved from duty with this army.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT. VA., *December 8, 1864.*
(Received 11.10 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

General Ledlie has been recommended by me for muster out of service. Order him to his home to await orders, and communicate to him the fact that he cannot have here again another command.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Fisher to Meade, 8.50 p. m., p. 873.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—1.10 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Headquarters Second Corps:

Colonel Kerwin is about ready to start. He is anxious to leave his picket-line, which numbers some 200 men, for the protection of his trains and camps and artillery. Without the men on picket he will have, including Colonel Walsh's detachment, some 640 men. Can he leave his picket-line or must the men composing it accompany him?

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—9 p. m.

Capt. P. SCHUYLER,
Assistant Provost-Marshal-General:

The commanding general directs that Lieutenant-Colonel Walsh, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, report with all his available force at 5 a. m. to-morrow to Colonel Kerwin at the camp of the headquarters Second Cavalry Division.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—10.20 a. m.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
City Point:

The commanding general directs that you provide a suitable guard for the pontoon trains that were sent to City Point last night by Major Duane.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Deserters from Archer's and MacRae's brigades came into the lines of the Second Army Corps about daylight this a. m. Been out on picket since 11 a. m. yesterday. At sundown last night Heth's division had orders to pack and be ready to move. Cannot say that the division has moved; had not moved at sundown; may have moved during the evening without their knowing it. Deserter from Scales' brigade came in at 2 a. m. (Wilcox's division); heard nothing about marching orders; has been out on picket since yesterday morning.

Deserters from Gracie's brigade, Johnson's division, came into Ninth Corps lines at 3.15 a. m.; orders at dark to have three days' rations and forty rounds of ammunition and be ready to move; thinks all brigades of the division had same orders; is positive the brigade had not moved at 3 a. m. to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Forwarded for your information.

I judge from these and preceding reports that the whole rebel force in my front is ordered to be on the *qui vive*, with three days' rations, but as yet there is no positive indication of any movement, except a concentration on their right to await developments.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 8, 1864. (Sent 10.35 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Five deserters from Finegan came into the lines of the First Division, Sixth Army Corps, at daylight this a. m. They report that last evening about sundown Finegan's brigade moved down the plank road (Boydton) with three days' rations. Harris' brigade had moved in the same direction earlier in the afternoon. Some of the men on picket had been back to camp yesterday afternoon and returned last evening, bringing the information of the movement. It was understood that all of Mahone's division had moved south on the plank road; also that Wilcox's division was under marching orders, but had not moved up to sundown last evening.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 8, 1864—9.20 a. m.

Major FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

About 1,500 of the enemy's infantry that were in camp near Boisseau's property have just fallen into line in light marching order. They are now moving to our left. They leave their quarters all standing. No other change in the enemy's camps apparent.

VAN B. SLEEPER,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 8, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

There is a brigade of infantry, followed by six ambulances and one wagon, now moving westward on the Cox road. The column marches well closed, displayed three colors, and was nine minutes in passing a point 10 degrees west of north.

VAN B. SLEEPER,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

CHURCH ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 8, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

Very quiet in the enemy's lines on this front since last report.

VAN B. SLEEPER,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 8, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Captain PAINE,
Signal Officer, Ninth Army Corps:

One regiment of infantry just passed rear of Whitehead's going toward enemy's right.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 8, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

Two trains of cars, one of five flats, the other of ten box and three coaches, ran into Petersburg on the old road at 2 p. m. The box-cars all had troops on top. About fifteen minutes after about 800 infantry came out of the city and went down the river.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
December 8, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Maj. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

A column of infantry passed west on the Cox road. They were well closed and five minutes passing a point.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—10.25 a. m.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant, Signal Corps:

Camps west of railroad and south of lead-works have the appearance of being partly broken up. No apparent changes at other points.

CAROTHERS.

All quiet this a. m.

HOLMAN.

A train of about twelve black covered wagons moving west of Richmond pike. Small train of ambulances moving opposite direction. No visible changes on this line.

JORDAN.

No report from Avery house.
Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 8, 1864—4 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The station near the Friend house reports:

A train of two engines, six platform, nine box and three passenger cars passed into Petersburg on Richmond railroad. The box and passenger cars were loaded with troops. At 3 p. m. 1,500 infantry moved toward Butler's front on the Richmond railroad.

Station in front of Fort Howard reports:

The camps inside of the intrenchments and to our right of the lead-works for the distance of about half a mile were broken up, and portion of the troops moved toward Petersburg in small detachments. Two small columns of about 100 infantry each moved westward on the Cox road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 8, 1864—6 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Station in front of Fort Howard reports:

At 4.30 p. m. about 1,000 infantry and one piece of artillery left the fort near Butterworth's house and moved westward upon the Boydton plank road. At 5.15 p. m. troops were moving west in rear of the intrenchments. They were somewhat scattered; were first seen about half a mile east of the lead-works. Darkness prevented seeing where they went. The camps for about half a mile east of the lead-works are all gone excepting a few tents.

In front of the position of the Second Corps the camps remain the same since the morning report. The reports from the right have not come in yet.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Lieut. WILLIAM S. STRYKER:

A column of infantry moving to our left on road running through works near and parallel to Richmond pike, about same in number as those last reported moving to our right. Think they are same troops.

JORDAN.

No changes apparent from this station. Enemy have fired a few shots from mortar battery on hill in front of Fort Hell, also from large fort to left of lead-works. Our batteries in the vicinity of Fort Sedgwick replied.

MARCY.

1.30 P. M.

One regiment of infantry just passed rear of Whitehead's, going toward enemy's right.

HOLMAN.

At 1.30 p. m. the enemy opened on Fort Hell and vicinity with mortar battery 30 degrees west of north, ours replying. Good practice on both sides. Opened with guns from Fort Mahone in our immediate front on our pickets while relieving at 4 p. m. Fired ten shots; no casualties. Between 5 p. m. and dark about 1,300 infantry moved from works extending from plank road as far left as lead-works, leaving in small detachments, and appearing desirous of keeping as much from view as possible. Could not see left of line.

CAROTHERS.

The wire was down between Pitkins and these headquarters, or the reports from Sergeant Holman would have been forwarded before.

Very respectfully,

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER:

Considerable activity observed in enemy's lines during the day. The following have been intercepted:

9.05 A. M.

Major P.:

One battery of artillery has passed rear of Battery 5, going toward City Point. They had four pieces, and six horses to each piece.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

STEUART'S FRONT—10 a. m.

Colonel B.:

At 4.40 last evening two regiments of infantry encamped in woods to right and rear of Battery A, and are coming this direction. During the night two rockets went up near the town, supposed from flats. Some slight picket-firing this morning. No change in enemy's camps.

R.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

11.40 A. M.

Colonel B.:

All quiet. Boats in same position.

R.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

Colonel B.:

A train of fifteen wagons just passed open space going to the front. In Chesterfield a working party removing lumber from Strahan's upper landing.

R.,
At C.

(Same to A. B.)

3.50 P. M.

Colonel B.:

One battery of artillery drilling on Gilliam's farm.

STEUART'S FRONT.

Eleven ambulances, followed by two brass pieces of artillery and one regiment of infantry, just passed, going toward front in Prince George. No unusual activity observed. Thirty wagons passed up the river and twenty down during the day. Negro pickets in our front again. Enemy still strengthening their works. Usual drilling observed. Dredging machine still at Dutch Gap.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

4 P. M.

Major P.:

I report there have passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, three trains, one of five box and two flats; one of fifteen boxes, and the other of three coaches and five flats. Forty-two wagons and one piece of artillery in rear of same battery, going toward City Point. Three trains, one of four boxes, one of one, one of five, and the other of eleven boxes and two flats and thirty-five wagons. One engine was observed to come on the old railroad from City Point to a point in rear and above the Covington house and return.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

4.45.

Major P.:

One train of ten cars and one flat just passed, going to enemy's left. The flat and one box-car being loaded with troops on top.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

H. W. HOLMAN.

The above is just received and respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 8, 1864—8.50 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The plank road station reports:

Just as it was becoming dark the enemy withdrew, as it were, individually from their intrenchments between the Weldon railroad and the Jerusalem plank road, beyond which places the lookout could no longer discern, to the number of about 1,300. They moved toward their right or westward.

This estimate of numbers I judge to be short of the true number of men leaving. Their tents in front of the Ninth Corps position were apparently left standing. The station near the Friend house reports:

A column of infantry moved to our left on road running through the woods near Richmond pike. I think the column to be the same that marched toward Butler's front at 3.30 p. m. They then marched in plain view, but they, in moving to the left, were on a road concealed save at this one point.

I send intercepted messages with this.*

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 332. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *December 8, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

6. In the event of a movement being necessary, the following dispositions will take place: The intrenched lines held by the troops designated will be left under the general directions of Major-General Parke. The commanding officers of the several corps detachments will report accordingly to Major-General Parke—the Second Corps by telegraph from Second Corps headquarters, the Sixth Corps by telegraph from Fifth Corps headquarters. The troops in the defenses of City Point will also be under the orders of Major-General Parke, to whom Brigadier-General Benham, commanding those troops, will report by telegraph. The troops composing the movable column will be under the orders of Major-General Humphreys. The commanding officers of the Ninth Corps reserves will accordingly report by telegraph to Major-General Humphreys, taking his orders as to arrangements and reporting the strength of their commands and position of the same. The minimum amount of transportation will in all cases be taken consistent with carrying the prescribed amount of ammunition, subsistence, forage, and hospital supplies. In all cases where practicable use will be made of the pack saddles and mules of the supply trains. Major-General Humphreys will designate twenty-four guns to accompany his column, to be taken from the reserves of the Second and Ninth Corps. The troops at these headquarters, which have been provisionally placed under the command of Col. A. H. Tippin, Sixty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, will accompany the movable column. Colonel Tippin will accordingly report by telegraph to Major-General Humphreys the organization and strength of his command.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *December 8, 1864.*

Major-General PARKE,
Ninth Army Corps:

In accordance with orders from General Meade, I have the honor to report to you as commanding the defenses of this place. As you may not be informed in detail of the troops I have here, I would state that

* See Dillingham to Stryker, next, *ante*.

I have a fair proportion of artillery, thirty-six guns for the eight forts, and three miles and a half of line; that I have two battalions, comprising about 1,000 infantry, and about 1,600 effective engineers, though of all these only about 250 have any drill with their arms, and nearly all the engineers are now constantly at work on hospitals, &c. I have no cavalry or mounted men in front, and it requires nearly one-half my infantry to protect south of Bailey's Creek. I may mention further that there are 250 sharpshooters also without arms. I also understand that the troops under General Patrick, number unknown, will be available in an emergency. If any mounted men should be sent me to secure my infantry pickets from surprise I would consider it of the utmost value.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS POST,
City Point, Va., December 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

GENERAL: By direction of the provost-marshal-general, Armies operating against Richmond, I have the honor to transmit the following report of officers and men present for duty in the different regiments now on duty at this post, irrespective of the regular details, who are held subject to your orders in case of emergency:

	Officers present.	Men present.
20th New York State Militia	9	450
63d Pennsylvania Volunteers	4	75
18th Delaware Volunteers	4	161
10th U. S. Colored Troops	15	450
Total	32	1,136

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. B. HARDENBERGH,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Post.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—11.02 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

The remainder of General Seymour's division, Sixth Corps, arrived and occupied the position of the division of the Fifth Corps, under General Ayres. A detachment from it occupies Fort Dushane and pickets to the left of the Second Corps on the Weldon railroad. The right of General Seymour was extended this morning to include Fort Wadsworth, which is garrisoned by him.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864. (Received 11.06 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

Four deserters from MacRae's, Archer's old, and Scales' brigades came in during the night. Those from MacRae's and Archer's state that they had orders yesterday afternoon to cook two days' rations and be ready to move. Heard that a brigade moved to their right yesterday evening. Don't know whose. It was understood we were moving to their right. Deserter from Scales' left his regiment for picket yesterday morning. Heard nothing of our moving. No marching orders had then been issued to them. There was one deserter from the right of the First Division last night and one from the Third Division pickets.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—12 m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

An order will be issued placing you in command of the movable column in case of leaving the intrenchments. Parke's reserves are ordered to report to you by telegraph for orders. Please be prepared to send them such preliminary orders as you issued yesterday in paragraph 11. I think twenty-four guns will be enough to carry, one battery of which, if not more, might come from Parke, who has ten rifled and ten 12-pounders in reserve.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Colonel DUANE,
Chief Engineer, Army of the Potomac:

Can you send a supply of gabions to each of the inclosed works held by the Second Corps, to close the entrances, in the event of an attack on their rear? The inclosed works of the Fifth Corps line probably require the same. I am informed there are no palisade closing for the works on the line of the Second Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Lieutenant-Colonel Spaulding has been directed to send details of his command to inclose the different works requiring it along the lines of the Second and Sixth Corps.

N. MICHLER,
U. S. Army.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

SIR: I am directed by the commanding general to inform you that Colonel Kerwin, Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, with about 800 men has been directed to move at once down the Vaughan road to the intersection of that road with the Halifax road for the purpose of ascertaining, if possible, from that point whether the enemy is following up General Warren's movement.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—7.45 p. m. (Sent 8.20 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

Eight hundred and fifty-one stragglers from General Warren's command have just been brought in. Three hundred and ninety-nine of these men are from Mott's division, Second Corps, and 452 from the Fifth Corps. All are now being sent to your headquarters, and the commanding general desires that you will make such use of the men as you may think best. He suggests that as a punishment it might be well to place them in the trenches to relieve some of your troops from that duty.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864. (Received 9.40 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I understand that a number of officers of the Fifth Corps came into the army to-night and are at the Yellow House. I respectfully request that they may be ordered to report to Brigadier-General Miles, commanding First Division, Second Corps, for duty with the stragglers from the Fifth Corps.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The cavalry reached the Vaughan road crossing of Hatcher's Run just before dark and found it guarded by Young's brigade. After losing some five or six men wounded they returned. I will send them out again at daylight to-morrow to try the Halifax road crossing, and if that is guarded and cannot be forced to go on to Stony Creek, but I fear the enemy will be too strong for them. I wish you would caution your sub-

ordinate officers and send word to Seymour and Wheaton to send forward as soon as possible any deserters that may come in during the night or in the morning.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864. (Sent 9.55 p. m.)

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

Instructions will at once be given to have any officers belonging to the Fifth Corps that may be at the Yellow Tavern report to General Miles for duty with the Fifth Corps stragglers, as requested by you.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

1. In the event of a movement, the intrenched lines held by the troops of the Second Corps will be under the command of Col. M. Murphy, Sixty-ninth New York National Guard, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division, who should establish his headquarters convenient to present corps headquarters.

2. The intrenched lines held by the troops of the Sixth Corps will be under the command of Brigadier-General Seymour, whose headquarters should be established at or near the Yellow Tavern.

3. The troops of the Sixth Corps that move will be under the command of Brigadier-General Wheaton, to whom General Seymour will transfer the troops of his division that march upon his receiving the order of movement. General Wheaton will then consolidate his command as far as practicable.

4. In the event of movement, the commander of the artillery of the Second Corps lines, Capt. A. J. Clark, First New Jersey Artillery, will report to Colonel Murphy, and the commander of the artillery of the lines of the Sixth Corps will report to Brigadier-General Seymour.

5. The command of all the intrenched lines of the army will, by order from headquarters of the army, be under the command of Major-General Parke, to whom the commander of the Second Corps lines will communicate by telegraph from present headquarters Second Corps. The commander of the Sixth Corps lines will communicate with him by telegraph from the Yellow Tavern, formerly headquarters Fifth Corps.

6. By orders from headquarters Army of the Potomac, the reserves of the Ninth Corps will be attached to the command of Major-General Humphreys, commanding Second Corps. In the event of a movement, they will be immediately commanded by Brevet Major-General Potter, who will consolidate them as far as practicable.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that four batteries, twenty guns, ten light 12-pounders and ten 3 inch, are in readiness to move with the troops if necessary. The requirements of the circular of October 7 have been carried out. There has been no change in the position of batteries since the report forwarded yesterday p. m.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel FITZHUGH:

COLONEL: Lieutenant-Colonel Hazard has received information that Rogers' battery (B), First New York Artillery, is not to accompany the troops, but is to remain in Fort Dushane. He has, therefore, directed Lieutenant Rogers to report back to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

U. D. EDDY,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND CORPS,
No. 206. } *December 8, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

III. The commanding officer of the Eleventh New York Battery will relieve the Tenth Massachusetts Battery in Fort Welch immediately after dark to-night, placing all his pieces in the latter fort. The order directing him to have his battery in readiness to move at very short notice will be considered as rescinded as soon as he shall have taken position in Fort Welch, but Lieutenant Wyatt will hold four of his caissons, accompanied by the proper non-commissioned officers, in readiness to move with the troops, supplied with the proper amount of rations, &c. He will report in person at these headquarters without delay for further instructions.

By command of Maj. John G. Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Maj. Gen. N. A. MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: A number of stragglers from Warren's command have just been brought into army headquarters, and are now on their way to these headquarters. The men of the Fifth Corps, numbering 452, will be sent to you for temporary assignment. Every care should be

taken to impose upon them all fatigue duty that may be required, and in the event of a movement to see that they are so placed as to prevent them again straggling.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
December 8, 1864—11.45 p. m.

The command will move at daybreak to-morrow morning. The following will be the order of march: First, Third Brigade, Colonel McAllister; second, ambulance train; third, First Brigade, General De Trobriand; fourth, Battery B, Fourth U. S. Artillery; fifth, Second Brigade, General Pierce.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

CHAS. F. MOORE,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. T. SEYMOUR,
Commanding Third Division, Sixth Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires me to say that you must retain a garrison of 200 men in Fort Dushane, in addition to the other garrisons, when the reserves of the army move, and you will have them properly provisioned and supplied accordingly.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: In compliance with communication from headquarters Second Army Corps of this date I have the honor to submit the following list of regiments and names of brigade commanders in this division:

First Brigade, commanded by Col. William S. Truex: Fourteenth New Jersey Volunteers, One hundred and sixth New York Volunteers, battalion One hundred and fifty-first New York Volunteers, Tenth Vermont Volunteers, battalion Eighty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Second Brigade, commanded by Col. J. W. Keifer: One hundred and tenth Ohio Volunteers, One hundred and twenty-second Ohio Volunteers, One hundred and twenty-sixth Ohio Volunteers, One hundred and thirty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, battalion Sixty-seventh Pennsylvania Volunteers, Sixth Maryland Volunteers, Ninth New York Heavy Artillery.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—5.45 a. m. (Received 6 a. m.)

General MOTT:

I wish you would have the head of your column ready to move on at daybreak. Move left in front and pass to the right of the train if you come to it. As soon as you reach that part of the railroad not destroyed I wish you to begin destroying it as thoroughly as possible.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Northcross House, December 8, 1864—11 p. m.

Brevet Major-General MOTT,
Commanding Division:

GENERAL: The trains will move south at 3 a. m. to-morrow. You will please be prepared to move at daybreak to protect the trains, and to look out for any movement of the enemy down this road.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. L. THOMAS,
Chief Quartermaster, Fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: The major-general commanding directs that you move the trains at 3 a. m. through the woods to the large open field on the left of the road. Three batteries will precede the trains. General Mott has been instructed to move at daybreak to protect the trains and to look out for and be prepared for any movement of the enemy down this road.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 160. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General Gregg has reached the railroad and burnt the bridge across the Nottoway. He has had some skirmishing with the enemy's cavalry and has driven them all across that stream. Though he pickets all the roads coming in from our right, it will be best for each division commander to leave an infantry force, from 300 to 500 men, according to the importance of the roads, at each one of them to hold it until it is relieved by the following division, and General Mott until the last of his division has passed. The column should be moved on with as little rest as possible, and the stragglers can come in with the train.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 161. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *December 8, 1864.*

About 6 p. m. this evening the three divisions of the Fifth Corps will move out on the railroad and complete the destruction of the railroad ties and rails as far as practicable, bending the latter when it can be done. A staff officer will be sent to each division to designate the points at which each is to begin. General Ayres to begin at the Nottoway River and work toward General Crawford, and General Crawford to work to where General Griffin begins. As soon as a division works down to a place finished by another, it will go on and pass them and begin again. This work to be kept up till 12 o'clock, if not interrupted by the enemy. They will then bivouac till daylight along the road. All the artillery, ambulances, &c., will be sent to the main train this evening, to move with it along the wagon road. General Gregg will proceed along the railroad south. After bivouacking, the spring wagons can be sent for and the trains will be kept as near the divisions as possible for that purpose. General Mott will protect the train when it moves and a force of cavalry will watch the rear. The wood along the railroad must be thoroughly consumed, the ties being piled up and the rails placed on top when the rails can be separated.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—6 a. m.

General CRAWFORD:

You will remain where you are till General Ayres passes you, when you will follow on, left in front, looking out for your own rear, though we leave a little cavalry behind us. You will pass the division destroying the railroad, and as soon as you get to any part not destroyed go to work yourself. You will not have to move before 8 a. m.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: In compliance with confidential circular from headquarters Second Corps, of the 7th instant, I have the honor to report that the garrison of Fort Howard will consist of 100 men from the First Brigade (Jersey) and 50 men from the Fifth Wisconsin Volunteers, of the Third Brigade of this division, under command of Capt. B. Hufty, Fourth New Jersey Volunteers, commanding the Jersey brigade, which will remain here; the garrisons of Batteries 25 and 26 will consist of similar details, under the command, respectively, of Capts. E. W. Davis, Fourth New Jersey Volunteers, and J. W. Penrose, Fifteenth New Jersey Volunteers. The above garrisons will have the proper complement of officers besides the commanding officers. The balance of the First Brigade (Jersey, 1,300 men), and 200 additional men from the Fifth

Wisconsin Volunteers, Third Brigade, will constitute a force for picket, picket reserve, and for contingent wants. Capt. J. W. Van Myers, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteers, will be in charge of the picket-line. Col. T. S. Allen, Fifth Wisconsin Volunteers, will be in charge of the division front. Lieut. Col. J. M. Bull, of the same regiment, will also remain, subject to the orders of Colonel Allen.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. WHEATON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—11.56 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual has transpired along our lines. Four deserters are reported as having come in during the night. Two men from Gracie's brigade have arrived here. They know of no movement of troops. Expecting an attack on their lines. About midnight received orders to have three days' rations cooked and be ready to move.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—6.45 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

I desire you will to-night withdraw from the lines the available reserves indicated in your telegram of yesterday and mass them in rear in the vicinity of the position they now occupy, so that in case of a movement no time will be lost in their withdrawal. The reports from signal officers indicate so much movement of the enemy to our left it is not deemed likely an attack in force will be made on your lines.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

I am very anxious to have the earliest intelligence that may be received by any deserters coming in. Please notify your subordinates to be particularly prompt in forwarding any coming into your lines and send by telegraph to these headquarters any information of movements they may give.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. O. B. WILLCOX,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: In the event of a movement of troops being made you will take charge of the whole line now held by the First and Second

Divisions of the corps. General Potter will direct the officer to be left in command of his front to report to you. You will please direct the officer in command of your reserve to report to Brevet Major-General Potter.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that Robinson's brigade is withdrawn from the lines and concentrated near Burnside's old headquarters, and ready in every particular to move at a moment's notice. It is nearly 1,000 strong.

Very respectfully,

O. B. WILLCOX,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. R. B. POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: You are hereby placed in command of the reserve of this corps, made up of the reserves of your own division, that of the First Division, and the Provisional Brigade. General Hartranft and Colonel Robinson will be directed to report to you. You will please report by telegraph to Major-General Humphreys. Accompanying please find instructions from Major-General Humphreys. You will please direct the officer to be left in charge of your front, in the event of a movement, to report to Brevet Major-General Willcox.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—4.44 p. m.

Major-General POTTER:

(Through headquarters Major-General Parke, commanding Ninth Corps.)

By orders from the headquarters Army of the Potomac, the reserves of the Ninth Corps will be attached to the command of Major-General Humphreys, commanding Second Corps. In the event of a movement, they will be immediately commanded by Brevet Major-General Potter, who will consolidate them as far as practicable.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. R. B. POTTER,
Commanding Second Division, &c.:

GENERAL: I am directed by the major-general commanding to forward you the following dispatch from Major-General Meade for your instructions.*

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. VAN BUREN,
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. HARTRANFT,
Commanding Provisional Brigade, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to say that you will report for instructions to Brevet Major-General Potter.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. LYDIG,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 8, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding:

GENERAL: It will be very difficult to destroy the railroad, at least the rails. These are connected in such a way that tools will be required. The connection of the rails is such that in turning over the entire tracks and sleepers does not break it. My command has turned over about a mile of the road. Our pickets are about a mile from Jarratt's Station. A very few of the enemy seen in that direction. My horses need water very much, which I will try to find.

Yours, &c.,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Jarratt's Station, December 8, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding:

GENERAL: I have a negro who left Belfield at 12 m. to-day. He says the enemy had two pieces of artillery on this side the river at that point and five on the south. He thinks there were about 500 men there. At Belfield this morning they knew of our having been at Sussex last night and have been sending property away to-day.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Cavalry.

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* See Meade to Parke, 6.45 p. m., p. 883.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 8, 1864—8.20 p. m.

Major-General WARREN, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: I send you the negro from Belfield. He says that he heard the people say that the commanding officer at that town had applied to General Lee for General Hampton's troops to be sent down, but was replied to that probably General Hampton would be wanted on the military road. I think you will conclude, as I do, from the negro's story, that the force at Belfield has or is ready to run away, as they are principally conscripts. The negro thinks the force is less than 500. I send a paper of the 5th.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 8, 1864.

Colonel KERWIN, *Commanding Cavalry:*

COLONEL: The commanding general directs that with all your available force and a detachment of the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, under Major Walsh, which has been ordered to report to you at once, you proceed, with as little delay as practicable, down the Vaughan road to the intersection of that road with the Halifax road, and then endeavor to ascertain whether the enemy is talking of the movement of General Warren, and after reaching the point indicated you should send a party toward the Boydton plank road by the road passing Gravelly Ford and Friend's Meeting-House. The object of this expedition is chiefly to obtain intelligence respecting the operations of the enemy, and it is supposed that from citizens and contrabands you will be able to learn whether he has sent any troops down the Boydton plank road. You will cause any information that you may gain in relation to the enemy to be promptly communicated to the commanding general. The commanding general does not think that it will be neeessary for you to take any artillery with you, but, if you wish to do so, you are authorized to take a section. The detachment of the First New Jersey Cavalry, employed in picketing the telegraph road above Jordan's Point, will not be withdrawn to accompany you. The commanding general directs that you will lose no time in moving to execute these instructions, and that you promptly send to him any reliable information you may obtain.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
December 8, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The signal officer on the Cobb's Hill tower reports that at 11.45 a. m. twelve cars, heavily loaded with troops, passed Port Walthall Junction toward Petersburg—a regular train. The 9 a. m. train to that point did not run.

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
December 8, 1864—2.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The signal officer on Cobb's Hill tower reports that at 2 p. m. a train of twelve cars, loaded with troops, passed Port Walthall Junction toward Petersburg. It was an extra train.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully forwarded for the information of Lieutenant-General Grant.

Deserters say that Hoke's division moved away last night, but they did not know where. The enemy are strengthening their forces opposite Dutch Gap.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
December 8, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER, *Chief of Staff:*

GENERAL: The signal officer on Cobb's Hill tower reports that "at 5 p. m. a train of thirteen cars, loaded with troops, passed Port Walthall Junction toward Petersburg."

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

FORT BRADY, VA., *December 8, 1864.*

Col. H. L. ABBOT, *Commanding Siege Artillery:*

COLONEL: Have the honor to report no excitement. The rams did not venture down. An infantry colonel on picket, who was where he could see plainly, reported that all but one of our shots last night struck the enemy's boats, doing, as he judged, considerable injury to one. Hope that his statement is correct. Have everything repaired, except the 30-pounder. Lieutenant Batterson is doing excellently; like him very much.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 8, 1864.

General TERRY, *Twenty-fourth Corps Headquarters:*

General Butler has gone to Fort Monroe. He directs that in his absence you assume command of the Army of the James.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 4. } HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS, *December 8, 1864.*

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3. All enlisted men on duty in this corps belonging to cavalry regiments other than the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry are hereby relieved and ordered to rejoin their respective commands without delay.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 4. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 24TH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., December 8, 1864.*

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3. Col. Thomas O. Osborn, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteers, having reported for duty, is assigned to the command of the First Brigade of this division, relieving A. C. Voris, Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteers. The brigadier-general commanding desires on this occasion to express his high appreciation of the zeal and ability with which Colonel Voris has discharged his duties as brigade commander.

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By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

ADRIAN TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

BERMUDA, VA., *December 8, 1864.*
(Received 9.15 a. m.)

Major-General BUTLER, *Commanding, &c.:*

I am here embarking the troops in case you should have anything to communicate.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 8, 1864.

General HECKMAN,
Twenty-fifth Corps Headquarters:

During General Butler's absence General Terry will have command of the Army of the James.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 3. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 25TH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., December 8, 1864.*

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II. Bvt. Brig. Gen. Charles S. Russell, Twenty eighth U. S. Colored Troops, is hereby assigned to the command of the First Brigade of this division. Brevet Brigadier-General Russell will report for duty immediately.

By order of Brig. Gen. William Birney:

JAMES B. WEST,
Lieut., Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—9 a. m. (Sent 9.20 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send two reports* received this morning. The reconnaissance of the cavalry and a division of infantry moved this morning early, but have not yet reported progress.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—8:30 a. m. (Received 9.10 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

A deserter, just brought in from Forty-second Virginia, Terry's brigade, Gordon's division, Early's corps, says his division began to leave the Valley by railroad yesterday morning. Five trains got to near Petersburg last evening about sunset, and came to intrenchments near Boisseau's and relieved the troops there. His brigade was the first to leave. Got in the cars at Waynesborough. It was said Pegram's division was coming too. Don't know how many of his division have got here or whether Pegram's division have begun to arrive. The troops his brigade relieved moved to their right at once. He has been sent up to headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—9.15 a. m. (Sent 9.30 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The above, just received, is sent for your information.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—11.45 a. m. (Sent 11.50 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I transmit two dispatches† just received. Miles has been advised to move cautiously after crossing Hatcher's Run. His right flank by the Duncan road and the one Hancock took is open, and he is nearer to the enemy than to us. Humphreys has been ordered to hold another command in readiness to move to his support if necessary.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—12.10 p. m. (Sent 12.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward dispatch‡ just received. I fear the obstacles presented to Miles will check him sufficiently long to enable the enemy to send infan-

* See Fisher to Meade, 8.30 a. m., p. 894, and Parke to Williams, 7.15 a. m., p. 917.
† See Humphreys to Meade, 10.40 a. m., p. 899, and Parke to Williams, 11.20 a. m., p. 917.
‡ See Humphreys to Williams, 11.30 a. m., p. 900.

try to the point threatened, as Miles is nearer the enemy's lines than he is to ours. His right flank is, besides, open to a movement down the Duncan road. I have rather anticipated as the result of our last movement that Hatcher's Run would be found next time more strongly guarded.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 9, 1864.* (Received 12.15 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

General Canby has relieved General Steele from the command of the Department of Arkansas for failing to supply Fort Smith and his western posts in season. As it might not be pleasant for Steele to serve under a division commander who relieved him from the command of a department, I have expressed a willingness that Parke should be ordered to report to Canby and Steele placed in command of the Ninth Corps. Steele is one of the best of commanders of troops in hand.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch in regard to proposed change in command of the Ninth Corps is received, and I have to state the same is satisfactory to me.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 9, 1864—1.45 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

It is highly desirable that we should learn what the enemy are doing, but General Miles will have to be left with discretionary powers as to the method of forcing the crossing of Hatcher's Run. I would simply say to him that the object is to learn if the enemy have detached against Warren, and with what force, and leave him to select the way to do it.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward you a dispatch from Major-General Humphreys and my reply thereto, which will explain existing condition of affairs and answer yours of 1.45 p. m.:

General S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

"HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
"*December 9, 1864—12 m.*

"I succeeded in forcing a crossing and have about 100 men over. The river is filled with fallen trees and about four feet deep. I am trying to cross the cavalry single file and construct bridges at the ford half a mile above. The enemy are moving about two regiments to the right.

"N. A. MILES,
"*Brevet Major-General.*"

Respectfully forwarded.

A. A. HUMPHREYS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *December 9, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I think Miles had better confine his operations with the infantry to holding his position at Hatcher's Run, and letting the cavalry, with possibly a small infantry support, push out to ascertain what they can. Unless Miles is re-enforced I do not think it prudent for him to advance beyond the run, as he should look to his right flank and line of retreat in case of being pressed before supports can reach him. Perhaps it would be no more than prudential to send another force of your reserves to the vicinity of Thompson's or Tucker's to co-operate with Miles and keep open the road to him. I feel anxious lest his position should become critical before we are made aware of it. The enemy may look for us on the South Side road and remain on the defensive, but he may push down to see what we are about.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 9, 1864—2.15 p. m.*
(Received 2.25 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Your instructions to General Humphreys are satisfactory. If the enemy move against Miles he can be supported. In any event, he can save himself by moving eastward and then fall back. With the re-enforcements the enemy is now receiving from the Valley he may be strong enough to detach heavily by to-morrow. The remaining division of the Sixth Corps starts to-morrow to join your command.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—6 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send you the latest dispatches received.* I will have the mail-carrier carefully examined when he comes in. A contraband, living at Armstrong's, who was on the Boydton plank road yesterday south of Hatcher's Run, says Heth and Wilcox and two of Hill's divisions passed there yesterday and the day before. This would confirm the mail-carrier's report that Hill had gone to Dinwiddie.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—8.45 p. m. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I expect we have all the information we will get from our reconnaissance, which is that Hill's corps, probably all of it, went yesterday to Dinwiddie Court-House, undoubtedly to meet Warren's movements, which Lee may have thought were for the South Side Railroad. When the cavalry report Warren on the Weldon road, Hill will follow after and try to drive off. Giving him 15,000 infantry and 8,000 cavalry, he is not Warren's superior, and without fortifications, if Warren's men will fight and we have any luck, Warren ought to repulse him. If, however, the fortune of war is against him he can always retire to the eastward and

*See Humphreys to Meade, 5.20 p. m., p. 905, and Fisher to Meade, p. 895.

cross the Nottoway. I don't see what we can do to assist Warren. Lee has sent away three divisions and received three, viz, Hoke, Gordon, and Pegram, so that his force in my front is about equal to what it was before detaching. I, on the contrary, have sent off 20,000 and received only 8,000, so that I am 12,000 proportionately weaker. Under these circumstances, a flank movement, I think, would be hazardous. Lee would hold his lines and act on the defensive until he heard from Hill, and the latter, even if he failed to drive Warren (when Warren withdrew of his own accord, which he will do after exhausting his supplies), Hill could return and threaten our rear either of the flank movement or of the lines, the latter being necessarily open. I instructed Warren to communicate with me and hoped to have heard to-day. He was ordered positively to send a party in advance on his return to report his route. It would probably be well to hold a command in hand to meet him in case any intelligence should be received rendering this necessary. Do you wish Miles to remain out to-morrow? He will not be withdrawn without your orders.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 9, 1864.*
(Received 10.05 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Miles may be withdrawn to-morrow afternoon. It will be well, as you say, to be in readiness to move out to meet Warren if he should require assistance.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—10.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward dispatch just received.* The fighting referred to was probably Hampton's cavalry disputing our possession of the railroad.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—12.20 p. m.

Brigadier-General PATRICK:

The commanding general directs that you send Captain Soper's unassigned company New York Volunteers to Patrick's Station as soon as practicable by railroad. The company should, if possible, come up by the 3 p. m. train to-day. Captain Soper on arriving at Patrick's Station will report to General Humphreys at the Peebles house. The company should have shelter-tents, four days' subsistence, and sixty rounds of ammunition on the person. Please report at what hour the company will leave. The company will probably be assigned to the One hundred and eighty-ninth New York Volunteers.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Humphreys to Meade, 9.50 p. m., p. 908.

CITY POINT, *December 9, 1864.*
(Received 4.10 p. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your telegram relative to Captain Soper's company received at 1.45 p. m. to-day. At that time the company were drawing rations, and were unable to get off with the 3 o'clock train. Will be sent by special train.

M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 9, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Just received from City Point the following telegram:

Agents from Richmond report the following: Early's command arriving in Richmond. Troops were coming in and going to Petersburg all night day before yesterday evening. Yesterday morning they commenced arriving at Petersburg. Field's division has moved to the left of enemy's line, and taken position on the Nine-Mile road.

Early's command, since the withdrawal of Kershaw's division, of Longstreet's corps, consists only of the reorganized remnants of Ewell's old corps. Our latest information of the strength of this corps is 12,000 muskets.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 9, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Five deserters from Ninth Army Corps just received; all from Sixtieth Alabama, Gracie's brigade, of Johnson's division; came in at 3 a. m. No movement of Johnson's division at that hour as far as informants knew. Have been under marching orders for forty-eight hours. Rumor that Early is landing his troops in Richmond. They have no news of their arrival here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 9, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Deserter from the Forty-second Virginia, Terry's brigade, Gordon's division, Early's command, came into the lines of the Second Army Corps about one hour before day this a. m. He states that his

brigade and division left Waynesborough last Wednesday evening and arrived in Richmond yesterday morning; left Richmond yesterday afternoon; got off the cars about two miles the other side of Petersburg and marched southwest about six miles to the outside of Petersburg; relieved other troops in the trenches (cannot tell what troops) about dark last night; went out on picket at dark last evening; the troops relieved marched off to the right. He further states that only two divisions, Gordon's and Pegram's, have left the Valley, both under command of General Gordon. General Early remains in the Valley with Rodes' old division and Breckinridge's old command (now Wharton's, I think). Gordon's and Pegram's divisions comprise what was once Johnson's and Early's divisions, of Ewell's corps. They are greatly reduced and cannot possibly number more than 6,000 or 7,000 men, unless the regiments have been filled lately with conscripts, of which we have no information. Informant states that Early had five divisions of infantry with him in the Valley, as follows: Rodes, Gordon, Ramseur (now Pegram), Breckinridge (now Wharton), and Kershaw, of Longstreet's corps. He thinks Early has left at present in the Valley Wharton's, Rodes', and Kershaw's divisions. He is undoubtedly ignorant of the departure of Kershaw of late, which would leave Early the old division of Rodes and Wharton's small division. As far as informant's statement can be corroborated by our information we find it correct, and have every reason to believe his story.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

Informant could not say that Pegram's division also came on this side of the Appomattox, but he seems quite certain it left Richmond and followed Gordon's division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864.

Captain MCENTEE:

Deserter from Terry's brigade, of Gordon's division, came in this a. m. Gordon's and Pegram's divisions left Waynesborough last Wednesday morning. Early still in Valley with Rodes' and Wharton's divisions. Gordon, Pegram, and Kershaw here.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 9, 1864—8.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The Jerusalem plank road station reports:

A few stragglers appear moving toward our left west of Weldon railroad. A small camp was also broken up a short distance to the left of lead-works, and in our front a less number of tents appear than formerly. The force in our front is not as light as movements last evening would indicate. Probably the places of those moving out were partially filled up by troops from other points.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The Church road station reports:

One of the enemy's camps, should think the camp of one regiment of infantry, 10 degrees west of north, has disappeared. It is yet too hazy to see the enemy's position generally, but the above is the only change apparent.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: It has just been reported to me from the Ninth Corps that squads of infantry and stragglers were seen this a. m. upon the Richmond pike, moving toward Petersburg, which would indicate the passage of troops in that direction at an earlier hour. A few tents have been pitched to-day in the vicinity of Butterworth's house.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 9, 1864.

Colonel FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

At 10 a. m. a train of thirteen wagons moved to our left from Petersburg. Enemy's wood details on our front are not more than one-third as large as usual. Their number of pickets is also less.
A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 9, 1864—3 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: The following report has just been received from the signal station at the Church road:

DECEMBER 9, 1864—2.15 p. m.

The enemy relieved their pickets on this front at their usual hour, 10 a. m., and with the usual force. A small regiment of infantry, about 250 strong, followed by ten pack-horses, just passed a point 10 degrees west of north from this station moving westward on Cox road. No change in enemy's camps noticed since last report.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—6.36 p. m.

Lieutenant STRYKER:

All quiet this p. m. Squads of infantry and stragglers were seen on the Richmond road going toward Petersburg during the fore part of the day. The following have been intercepted:

"STEUART'S FRONT—9.30 a. m.

"Colonel B[RENT]:

"No change since last report from Dunn's. All quiet. Gun-boat in same position. Schooner off Strahan's upper landing.

"R.,
"*At C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"STEUART'S FRONT—3.15.

"Colonel B[RENT]:

"No change observed in enemy's camps since last report. Negroes still in our front. Enemy still strengthening first line of works near Battery D.

"DUNN'S.

"All quiet. Gun-boat in same position. One schooner off Strahan's upper landing and two steamers off Strahan's lower landing.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

No time given by sergeant.

HOLMAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 437. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 9, 1864.

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55. By direction of the President the following officers are hereby assigned to duty according to their brevet rank: Bvt. Maj. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Maj. Gen. Alfred T. A. Torbert, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Brig. Gen. James Jourdan, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Brig. Gen. N. M. Curtis, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Brig. Gen. A. G. Draper, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Brig. Gen. S. A. Duncan, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Brig. Gen. B. C. Ludlow, U. S. Volunteers; Bvt. Maj. P. S. Michie, U. S. Army.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 333. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864.

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2. In compliance with instructions received from headquarters Armies of the United States, Brig. Gen. James H. Ledlie, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby directed to repair to his home and there await further orders.

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8. To meet existing circumstances all work not necessary for the defense of the position held by the army will be suspended for the present, and all enlisted men on special or detailed duty who can possibly be spared from such duty and who have arms will be returned to the ranks.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—12.05 p. m. (Sent 12.45 p. m.)

General H. W. BENHAM,
City Point:

The commanding general desires that you will report immediately by telegraph what number of men you can move to the front, leaving in the defenses of City Point the artillery and the minimum number of men necessary to hold the works, and that you hold the men available for a movement in readiness to move at very short notice with four days' rations. In order to make available as many men as possible you will draw in all extra-duty men that are subject to the orders of the commanding general.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *December 9, 1864.*
(Received 2.45 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My estimate, already forwarded (which please see) as a minimum to hold these defenses, is 1,800 men, besides the artillery to guard the forts; also two good regiments, to be movable at and on the lines between the forts. Including the depot guard and every surplus recruit of the engineers, my report to-day of men for duty is just short of 1,600 men. Besides these, I have a Massachusetts battalion of 550 men, which are required to furnish the heavy details to picket my left and across Bailey's Creek, and a New Hampshire battalion of 450 men. This comprises all my forces for defense and is at least one full regiment less than my minimum estimate. Of other troops I would state the commander of the post reports 1,136 men available in case of an emergency, and there are about 230 sharpshooters, nearly all not armed, but waiting for Spencer rifles, sent for to Washington, as I understand, by orders from headquarters Armies of the United States. As about all my effective men are on fatigue duty by General Grant's order, most of them constructing hospitals, upon the receipt of your order on the 7th instant to hold the infantry ready to move, I applied to Colonel Bowers to know if I could take the New Hampshire battalion from that duty, to hold them ready, as per your order, but was directed to retain them and they still are upon that duty.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—12.35 a. m. (Sent 12.45 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

I desire that you send early in the morning, as soon after daylight as practicable, one of the divisions of the reserve force under your command, preferably one of the divisions of the Second Corps, to make a reconnaissance to ascertain if practicable the movements of the enemy on the other side of Hatcher's Run, and to sustain the cavalry reconnaissance which is directed to be made at the same time. The cavalry has already been ordered to move at daylight and try to cross on the Halifax road. The infantry had better force a passage at Armstrong's Mill and the Vaughan road. Colonel Kerwin, commanding the cavalry, will be directed to take orders from the officer you send in command of the infantry. Please inform him who this is. He will be found at General Gregg's old headquarters on the Jerusalem plank road. A battery of artillery had better accompany the infantry. Perhaps, as there is some doubt of the cavalry crossing at the Halifax road, and the cavalry force is so small, it may be better that the whole force, cavalry and infantry, should operate at the Vaughan road, as the object is to get the cavalry on the other side of Hatcher's Run. If this should agree with your judgment you can send instructions to that effect to Colonel Kerwin.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—1.45 a. m. (Received 1.50 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS:

I have ordered Miles' division to make the reconnaissance as soon after daylight as practicable, and Colonel Kerwin to move on the Vaughan road. General Miles is informed that he may not find it necessary to move farther than the intersection of the Vaughan and Halifax roads, forcing the crossing of Hatcher's Run.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—10 a. m. (Sent 10.15 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

There seems to be no doubt of the return of Early's troops, also of Hoke's division having been brought this side the Appomattox. Under these circumstances the enemy can detach against Warren without weakening greatly his lines. What news have you from General Miles? If he forces the passage of Hatcher's Run he should be cautious about advancing the infantry beyond without being pretty sure there is no large force on his flank nearer than where we suppose their lines to be.*

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* This in reply to Humphreys of 8.30 a. m., p. 889.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—10.40 a. m. (Received 11.15 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I have had no report from General Miles yet. The head of his column moved before daylight. Immediately after sending you dispatch about deserter I sent a dispatch to General Miles giving him the statement of the deserter, and telling him both Heth and Wilcox were probably moving toward Warren; would pass through Dinwiddie Court-House, or, perhaps, nearer to Hatcher's Run, and hearing of his movement would probably strike at him. I directed him, therefore, to look out after crossing Hatcher's Run. Just as I had finished the dispatch I was informed the orderly sent with the communication for Colonel Kerwin could not find him and had not delivered it. I sent an officer with escort to General Miles accordingly, and directed him to communicate with Colonel Kerwin, and instruct that officer to join him or continue on the Halifax road, as he considered best under the circumstances. By the same staff officer I sent a communication to Colonel Kerwin. I will send at once another officer to General Miles to learn what he has done, &c., and to caution him again to move carefully after he crosses Hatcher's Run.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Sent 11.40 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Dispatch 10.25 received. All right. Hold a command ready to support Miles in case it should be necessary to extricate him from any embarrassment. I look to his being annoyed on his right flank, probably by the Duncan road. I think Seymour's reserves would be the best to send out, as your left is now weak.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 9, 1864—11.15 a. m.

General MEADE:

An officer of the Fifth Corps, Major Hughes, who went out to report to General Miles this morning, is just in. He brings no dispatch from General Miles, but informs me that he left General Miles' command about 10.30 at Hatcher's Run, where there was some firing of musketry going on—the enemy apparently cavalry, and he thought our troops were about crossing. Colonel Kerwin was with General Miles.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—11.25 a. m. (Sent 11.30 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Dispatch of 11.15 received and satisfactory. I notified Colonel Kerwin of the change of programme, and informed him he would be

advised by you what officer commanded the infantry division and how he was to co-operate. On receiving your dispatch, saying he had been ordered to move on the Vaughan road, I sent him another order to the same effect. I send copies of both orders. These he received, and ought, therefore, to be with Miles or on the Vaughan road in Miles' rear. The transfer of Hoke's division to my front and the arrival of two divisions of Early make Lee strong enough to detach a proportionate force after Warren and still keep a force in my front of equal proportions to mine, as he had before. Under these circumstances, if Miles gets beyond supporting distance from here, the security of his command may be jeopardized and we embarrassed. Your instructions to him, however, seem to guard against this.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—11.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following dispatch just received from General Miles. He has already been directed to cross at Armstrong's Mill, to turn the force at Vaughan road, if necessary. I have sent Major Bingham to him, and shall learn what further orders to give upon his return.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

GENERAL: I struck the enemy's skirmishers at Cummings' house and drove them across the river, but I found it very difficult to cross after making several attempts. The enemy have a strong rifle-pit on the other side and have felled trees in the river, making it almost impossible to charge across with cavalry. I am placing two guns in position to endeavor to shell them out of the work opposite the ford. Thus far I have seen nothing but cavalry and mounted infantry. I have sent two regiments of cavalry to the ford on the right and one to the left with orders to force a crossing.

Very respectfully, &c.,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS MILES' DIVISION,
December 9, 1864—12 m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that General Miles has possession of the crossing of Hatcher's Run, on the Vaughan road. The crossing was obstructed so that the troops had the greatest difficulty in getting over, and the works on the opposite bank were held, I think, by infantry in some force, but who did not remain to defend them after we crossed.

We have now about two companies of infantry across. The river here is five feet deep. The pioneers are building a bridge for the infantry. The artillery, however, will probably have to remain here. The cavalry advanced dismounted to the edge of the run, but could not cross. They tried it also at another crossing about a mile below, but were repulsed with some loss. Our loss so far is probably between twenty and thirty. General Miles is pushing the cavalry over as rapidly as possible, but the progress is slow, owing to the obstructions.

Very respectfully,

W. JAY,
Brevet Major, Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—12.50 p. m. (Sent 1.05 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Your telegram with dispatch from Miles received. The condition of affairs reported is very much what I anticipated. I now fear Miles will be checked long enough to enable infantry to be sent to support the enemy's cavalry, and I deem it not unlikely troops will be sent down the Duncan road to act offensively in conjunction with those defending Hatcher's Run. I hope Miles will be on the alert. I have ordered Colonel Tippin, commanding headquarters reserves, to move up to the left and report to you for service, either in holding the lines or to reenforce Miles, whichever in your judgment is best. I should not be surprised if Miles is attacked in force and if the result of his reconnaissance would be a general engagement on our left between Fort Cummings and his position. At any rate, I think this contingency should be held in view and provided for, though it was not contemplated when the lieutenant-general ordered a division to be sent in support of the cavalry reconnaissance. Hold your reserves well in hand. Parke was ordered last night to withdraw his reserves from the lines, but it will take some time to get them up to the scene of action.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

General Wheaton was ordered to be ready to move at once with the reserves of the Sixth Corps without trains. I have also ordered General Gibbon to be ready to move at once with the reserves of his division. I will order General Potter to be ready to move at once. Had he not better concentrate his command immediately near the Jerusalem road at the rear line of works. I have ordered a picket-line to connect with Miles, covering the Vaughan road, and have cautioned Miles about the Duncan road, informing him that Wheaton is ordered to be ready to move to his support should it be necessary.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

[For Meade to Humphreys, 1.30 p. m., see Meade to Grant, 2 p. m., p. 890.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—2.10 p. m. (Sent 2.15 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Yours of 1.30 p. m. received and reported arrangements satisfactory, except I would send either Wheaton or Gibbon out to the point indicated in my last dispatch. I forward a telegram, just received from the lieutenant-general commanding, for your information.* I think it will take all day for Miles to see what can be found out, and if he cannot get any information by that time, and is undisturbed, I will be in favor of withdrawing him. Parke has been directed to concentrate his Third Division (4,000) on the Jerusalem plank road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—2.20 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I have ordered Miles to remain at Hatcher's Run and send forward the cavalry, with small support of infantry; cautioned him again about his right and the Duncan road, and informed him Wheaton was ordered up to vicinity of Tucker's to co-operate with him and keep open the road. I will go out myself with or in advance of Wheaton, unless you think I had better remain here until further developments. Wheaton will stop at my headquarters on his way out.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—2.55 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Dispatch of 2.10 received. I had ordered Gibbon to move to vicinity of Tucker's, but on referring to your dispatch of 10.30 I thought it best to send Wheaton instead. The differences of distance in the two marches is about a mile. In the event of my receiving any report from Miles that the enemy are approaching in force on his right flank I will move Gibbon out past Fort Cummings, Claypole's, &c.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—3.15 p. m. (Sent 3.25 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I see no objection to your going with Wheaton if you desire to, except the difficulty of communicating with you in an emergency; but as the emergency is likely to be where you will be, you can act without delay.

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* See 1.45 p. m., p. 890.

I think, however, you had better return as soon as convenient. I approve of sending Wheaton instead of Gibbon, as it leaves the reserves better posted along the lines for contingencies.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864. (Received 3.19 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Major Driver, assistant adjutant-general, is just in from General Miles. His infantry is still on this side building bridges, with the exception of a small force on the other side. The cavalry are all over, and some skirmishing is going on about one mile beyond. As yet no indications of any movement on his flank. A contraband, whom they found at Armstrong's, came in this morning from the Boydton plank road, on the other side of Hatcher's Run. He says that Heth and Wilcox were moving out the Boydton plank road yesterday and the day before, but that he did not see any this morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—3.35 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Did the contraband say where Heth and Wilcox were going, and how far down the Boydton plank did he see them pass? Had he heard anything of Mahone?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—3.45 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

The contraband knows nothing of Mahone. He did not know where Heth and Wilcox were going; merely that they were moving on the Boydton plank road. I gather from what he said that he had seen them on the Boydton plank road, nearly a mile or two beyond Hatcher's Run. It seems probable Mahone struck the Boydton plank beyond where the contraband was.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—4.10 p. m. (Sent 4.15 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I am unable to understand exactly the point where the contraband saw the divisions of Heth and Wilcox. Was it north of the crossing of Hatcher's Run, and did they move south across the bridge at Burgess'

Mill? Is it your judgment that these two divisions were moving to meet Warren, or is it likely they were moving to take a position to meet an anticipated attack on the South Side Railroad? Did the contraband on his return make no inquiry or hear anything as to the destination of these troops? If they crossed at Burgess' Mill and moved down the Boydton plank toward Dinwiddie Court-House would not the contraband have been likely to have heard this or seen some of them this morning on his return?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—4.10 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding:

Lieutenant Stacey, of my staff, has just returned from General Miles. He informs me the cavalry are out from two to three miles beyond Hatcher's Run. No firing going on. So far as he gathered, there was no enemy in front of the cavalry, and no further information of the movement of the enemy's infantry had been obtained. Two stragglers from Butler's cavalry had been picked up. Lieutenant Stacey took out my order to General Miles to push forward the cavalry, with some infantry support, to find out what they could of the enemy's movements.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864. (Sent 3.55 p. m.)

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Headquarters Second Corps:

The officers sent last night to report for duty with the Fifth Corps stragglers came here to-day, and said they had been unable to find the stragglers. Can you tell me where the officers should go to? They are now at the Yellow Tavern.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864. (Received 4.20 p. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The officers referred to in your dispatch should report at once to Colonel Nugent, commanding reserves, First Division, near the Peebles house.

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding:

Lieutenant Humphreys has just returned from the cavalry. He left there at 3 o'clock, three-quarters of a mile beyond Gravelly Run. No enemy in front; they were still moving out. No information of the enemy gained from the people of the country.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—4.50 p. m. (Received 5.15 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have sent for the contraband. Major Driver has evidently not seen him, but he stated explicitly that the contraband had come from the Boydton plank road this morning and from the south side of Hatcher's Run. The contraband must have seen some of Heth's and Wilcox's troops on the Boydton plank road south of Hatcher's Run, after they had crossed at Burgess' Mill, moving south. I concluded they were moving for Warren. It may be they only moved to take position across the Quaker road. I have an impression that deserters or others have said that they were ready for us in that vicinity—that is, had thrown up intrenchments there since our last movement; but still my judgment is that the troops seen were moving against Warren. The contraband, I understand, lives at a house on the Boydton plank road, one or two miles south of Hatcher's Run, and would have seen the troops this morning on his way to Armstrong's Mill if the troops were posted to meet a movement on the South Side Railroad. He did not see any. The contraband must have come to Armstrong's by the Dabney Mill road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 9, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Major-General MEADE:

Major Bingham, of my staff, is just in from the cavalry, whom he left about 4 o'clock near the intersection of the Vaughan and Quaker roads. No enemy in sight. Fifteen minutes later the cavalry captured a mail-carrier on his way from Stony Creek Depot to Petersburg with letters. He stated that the cavalry had gone after Warren; that Hill's corps was at Dinwiddie Court-House, but would not say whether any of it had gone after Warren. Major Bingham learned this from Major Jay, who left the cavalry after him. The mail-carrier and mail, I suppose, will be forwarded to me at once. I have ordered General Miles to that effect in regard to those he captures.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—7 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

The following has just been received from General Wheaton:

I reached this place 6.15 p. m.; found General Miles' troops only a sufficient distance from the main army picket-line to permit my troops to be massed between it and Miles' command. General Miles feels very strong and holds everything between here and Hatcher's Run. No enemy out of his intrenchments to trouble him. Had no room for my transportation outside the picket-line and left it just within the main line. My headquarters are with General Miles, at the Cummings house.

F. WHEATON,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: The inclosed letters have just been received from General Miles in the condition they are now forwarded. No communication was sent with them. I have instructed General Miles to send the rebel mail-carrier to me at once. I have not examined any of the letters.

I am, general, very respectfully,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have advanced the cavalry to the junction of the Quaker road, and have ordered a squadron to advance up the Quaker road as far as Stony Creek and follow toward the Boydton road until they struck the enemy. I will forward two prisoners of Butler's cavalry. A negro near the Quaker road reports hearing firing in the direction of Dinwiddie Court-House.

N. A. MILES,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

(Forwarded by Humphreys to Meade.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—7.40 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Dispatch from Miles received. As I understand, the Quaker road, as marked on our map, has been prolonged or opened to Stony Creek, and forms now what is called the Military road. It was coming up that road from Stony Creek that the mail-carrier was captured. I

understand, therefore, that the cavalry have been sent up the Quaker road or north toward the Boydton plank, and down this new road or southeast toward Stony Creek. The report of the mail-carrier that Hill was at Dinwiddie would confirm the statement of the Armstrong contraband so far as Heth and Wilcox are concerned. I hope this mail-carrier and his mail will be sent in. If there has been any firing in the direction of Dinwiddie it must be that Warren has pushed Gregg out to feel in that direction, because he expected to strike the road at Jarratt's, which would not be in the direction of Dinwiddie. If Hill's whole corps, with all the cavalry, has gone after Warren, he will have to meet a force nearly equal to his own. I shall await with some anxiety the examination of the mail-carrier. Have you any further intelligence of his whereabouts?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—8.05 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

Yes; I understand the Military road to be the continuation south of the Quaker road, probably until it intersects the Flat-Foot road, which runs to Stony Creek Station. The Military road must cross Stony Creek before intersecting the Flat-Foot road. It was on the Military road that the mail-carrier was captured. He ought to have been here by this time. I have read Miles' dispatch again. He sent a squadron to advance up the Quaker road as far as Stony Creek, and to follow toward the Boydton road until they struck the enemy. I don't think he sent a squadron down the Military road to its crossing at Stony Creek. It would have been well to have had one go there. Major Bingham told me the negro who mentioned hearing firing in the direction of Dinwiddie Court-House was very old and very much frightened. I don't think any stress should be placed on his statement. I have heard nothing further of the mail-carrier. Will send Major Bingham after him. General Miles is well posted, covering the crossings of Hatcher's Run near the Vaughan road, and watching that at Armstrong's Mill and covering the Vaughan road from Hatcher's Run to this side of Cummings'. General Wheaton was directed to take post on his right, covering the Squirrel Level road, which runs from Fort Cummings past Claypole's, entering the Vaughan road near Wilkinson's. He did not get out there until after dark considerably, and too late to notify Miles' troops and advance to cover Tucker's. The troops will remain there to-night, I suppose.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Near Hatcher's Run, December 9, 1864—7 p. m.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the cavalry under Colonel Kerwin, Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, has sent a party to within one mile and a half of the Boydton plank road, where was found a

strong line of works and a considerable force. Colonel Kerwin learned that Hampton's Legion and part of Hill's corps had passed down the Boydton plank in the direction of Dinwiddie Court-House. I have sent a prisoner from Sixteenth North Carolina Cavalry to you. The division is bivouacking on the high ground near the Cummings house. One brigade holds the fords. My headquarters are at that house.

Very respectfully,

N. A. MILES,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

(Forwarded by Humphreys to Meade, 8.40 p. m.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864. (Received 9 p. m.)

General MEADE:

Wheaton is massed on the right of Miles.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—9.50 p. m.

General MEADE:

The mail-carrier has arrived. I have sent him with two other prisoners to your headquarters. I sent the mail half an hour ago. The mail-carrier belongs to the Sixteenth North Carolina Battalion, Dearing's brigade. He says they moved down to Stony Creek Station day before yesterday; that he was left in small camp, and Dearing's brigade and all the cavalry moved along the railroad in the direction of Weldon; that he heard yesterday afternoon that Hill's corps had passed through Dinwiddie Court-House yesterday morning, moving against our troops that were on the Weldon railroad; that some wounded men were brought in yesterday afternoon, saying that there had been some fighting, in which the enemy had the worst of it; this is all I could get out of him and all I think he knows. I could get nothing specific from him as to what divisions of Hill's corps had moved. The other deserters knew nothing of any special import.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 9, 1864—10.05 p. m.

General WILLIAMS:

I understand that a move of this command was to be executed to-morrow. I have received no information on the subject officially. What about it?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—10.15 p. m.

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

The accompanying dispatch* from General Meade answers your telegram of 10.05 p. m. to myself. The commanding general desires that General Miles keep his cavalry to the front to-morrow, and, if it has not already been done, that he cause a bridge to be constructed over the run for the cavalry.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Dispatch and rebel mail received. The lieutenant-general commanding desires Miles and his command to remain out till to-morrow afternoon. I expect the mail-carrier told about all he knew. Warren will have to look out for himself, but we must be on the *qui vive* to send assistance to him in case we hear of his requiring it. I don't think we can do anything by moving to the left.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—11.15 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

The following changes have been made in my command since last report. General Miles' division, with one battery of artillery, moved out at daylight on the Vaughan road, on a reconnaissance across Hatcher's Run, and is posted near the run, covering the Vaughan road. The cavalry detachment with him reconnoitered as far as the Quaker road. General Wheaton, with the reserve of the Sixth Corps and one battery of artillery, moved out in the afternoon to Miles' right and is posted crossing the Squirrel Level and Vaughan roads. One section of Clark's New Jersey Battery was placed in Fort Welch in addition to the former armament of that work.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

To meet existing circumstances it is directed that all works not necessary for the defense of the lines of the army be suspended for the present, and that all enlisted men on special or detailed duty, who can possibly be spared from such duty, be returned to the ranks.

The above instructions are telegraphed from headquarters Army of the Potomac.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See next, *post*.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. Wheaton, First Division, Sixth Army Corps, will have his command (except that assigned to the intrenchments, pickets, &c.) got together and ready to move at once. If he should move, as he would only be in support of Miles' division, Second Corps, who is making a reconnaissance on the Vaughan road beyond Hatcher's Run, it will not be necessary to take any trains, and no wagons except the light headquarters wagons and a few ambulances.

General Seymour, Third Division, Sixth Army Corps, will order the troops that are to report to General Wheaton to do so at once. They will move without trains, except a few ambulances. Colonel Allen, in charge of General Wheaton's intrenched line, will report at once to Brigadier-General Seymour.

A battery of artillery will be ordered to report to General Wheaton at once by Lieutenant-Colonel Hazard, chief of artillery.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

In the absence of Major-General Miles, First Division, Major-General Gibbon, Second Division, will command all the troops of the Second Corps in the intrenched lines, extending to and including Fort Cummings.

Colonel Nugent, commanding the troops of the First Division in the immediate lines, will report to and receive orders from Major-General Gibbon.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Colonel DUANE,
Chief Engineer, Army of the Potomac:

COLONEL: Can you send Captain Paine to me, or any one familiar with the ground between Armstrong's Mill, the crossing of Hatcher's Run by Vaughan road, and our intrenchments. I want him in reference to holding across from the left of our intrenchments to the crossing of Hatcher's Run by the Vaughan road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—1.45 a. m.

Major-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

A reconnaissance was made yesterday by Colonel Kerwin's cavalry (First New York Rifles), about 400 or 500 strong, as far as the crossing of the Hatcher's Run by the Vaughan road. He was unable to

cross, being opposed by Young's brigade of cavalry. Colonel Kerwin is placed under your orders, and, with his cavalry and your division (excepting that part assigned to hold the intrenchments, pickets, &c.), will move as soon after daylight this morning as practicable, by the Vaughan road, force the passage of Hatcher's Run, and make a reconnaissance beyond, to ascertain what movements of the enemy are going on. This you will probably effect by moving as far as the intersection of the Vaughan and Halifax roads, marked on the accompanying map in red. A battery of artillery will accompany you to be assigned by Lieutenant-Colonel Hazard, chief of artillery, Second Corps. As the reconnaissance will probably be effected during the day, you will probably not require any transportation, but may take your light headquarters wagons and some ambulances. Keep me advised constantly of your progress and of any information you may obtain. Colonel Kerwin has already been ordered to move on the Vaughan road as soon after daylight this morning as practicable and to report to you for orders. Colonel Kerwin's headquarters are at Gregg's headquarters on the Jerusalem plank road near the rear line. Gibbon has been ordered to send a brigade to relieve your reserves.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. N. A. MILES,
Commanding Reconnaissance:

A deserter from Gordon's division, of Early's corps, came in this morning. He says the division he belongs to left the Valley near Staunton yesterday morning, coming by railroad to Petersburg, arriving there before sunset last evening, and marching to the intrenchments near Boisseau's, and relieving the troops there. He says Pegram's division, of Early's corps, was to follow Gordon's division. Gordon has no doubt relieved Heth's division and perhaps Wilcox's, and they are moving against Warren. Mahone's division moved against him yesterday morning. Heth's and Wilcox's would move through Dinwiddie Court-House, or may march toward Stony Creek, passing nearer Hatcher's Run than Dinwiddie Court-House. In either case, hearing of your movement, one or both may strike at you; so look out after you cross Hatcher's Run. If you find the run strongly defended at crossing of Vaughan road there is a crossing at Armstrong's Mill, one mile and a half above, by which you might turn the first.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General MILES,
Commanding Reconnaissance:

I learn from General Meade that not only have the two divisions of Early arrived at Petersburg, but that Hoke's division has been brought this side of the James River. Be cautious in advancing beyond Hatcher's

Run until you ascertain with some certainty that there is no force of the enemy on your right flank nearer than their intrenched positions on Hatcher's Run. They may send some force down on your flank along the Dabney Mill road. Should it be desirable, you can return by the Halifax road, or any other crossing Hatcher's Run below your point of crossing. Keep me advised of what occurs.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. N. A. MILES,
Commanding Reconnaissance:

The major-general commanding the army thinks it not unlikely that your movement may bring on a general engagement, extending from Hatcher's Run to our intrenchments. He thinks it more prudent that you confine your operations to holding your position at Hatcher's Run with the infantry, and let the cavalry, with a small infantry support, push out and ascertain what they can of the enemy. I will order Wheaton to move at once to the vicinity of Tucker's or Thompson's, and co-operate with you and keep the road open.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Maj. Gen. N. A. MILES,
Commanding Reconnaissance:

Look out for the Duncan road while you are on this side of Hatcher's Run. The enemy may be strong enough with his re-enforcements to send some force down that way on your flank and rear. The Duncan road crosses Hatcher's Run at Armstrong's Mill.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

P. S.—General Wheaton is ordered to be ready to move to your support should circumstances require it. He will take 4,500 men and four rifled guns.

A. A. H.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Major-General MILES,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: Lieutenant Stacey informs me that the cavalry are three miles beyond Hatcher's Run; everything quiet. If so, they must be near the intersection of the Halifax road. Can they be pushed out rapidly two or three miles farther, and learn from the people of the country, or stragglers, or contrabands, anything of the enemy's move-

ments? Send up any contrabands, prisoners, or others that have any important information, letting me know what it is by orderly as soon as possible. Send up the contraband you found at Armstrong's Mill at once; mount him to get him up quickly.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. N. A. MILES:

GENERAL: The contraband knew nothing of Mahone. He did not know where Heth and Wilcox were going, only that they were moving on the Boydton plank road. I gather from what he said that he saw them on the Boydton plank road nearly a mile or two beyond Hatcher's Run. It seems probable Mahone struck the Boydton plank road beyond where the contraband was.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—10.05 p. m.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: As the order directing the movement of this division made to-day gave no instructions for further operations, I respectfully ask for instructions for my guidance.

Very respectfully,

N. A. MILES,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—10.45 p. m.

Brevet Major-General MILES:

You will be directed to return to-morrow afternoon, unless some changes take place in the condition of affairs. Keep your cavalry to the front to-morrow and have a bridge built over Hatcher's Run suitable for wagons, if practicable. Please show this to General Wheaton, as he will be directed to return at the same time you do.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—1.30 a. m.

Major-General GIBBON, *Commanding Second Division:*

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you send a brigade of your division to take the place of General Miles' division just before daylight this morning, General Miles having been ordered to make a reconnaissance across Hatcher's Run on the Boydton road.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

The command will move to-morrow morning as prescribed in circular from headquarters Fifth Army Corps. The order of march will be as follows: First, Third Brigade, Brevet Brigadier-General McAllister; second, First Brigade, General De Trobriand; third, Battery B, Fourth U. S. Artillery; fourth, Second Brigade, General Pierce.

In case the ambulances do not move with the general train they will follow the battery. Brigade commanders will have flankers thrown well out both right and left, with instructions to be vigilant and to drive in all stragglers.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

CHAS. F. MOORE,
Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that yesterday it was determined to leave Rogers' battery (B), First New York Artillery, in Fort Dushane in case of a movement. Two batteries of the Ninth Corps have been ordered to report to me, which will make twenty-eight guns to move with the column. Brown's battery (B), First Rhode Island Artillery, accompanied the First Division on their movement this morning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Major, Commanding.

CIRCULAR, No. 162. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—6 a. m.

The following will be the order of march to-day if not interrupted by the enemy: First. Major-General Griffin will protect the train. Second. Major-General Mott will move at daybreak and form line of battle, facing west on the first portion of the railroad he reaches not destroyed, and then commence its destruction. Third. As soon as General Mott passes General Ayres he will follow him and form on his left, and commence destroying the railroad. General Crawford will follow General Ayres, and do the same as he is directed to. A small force of cavalry will give notice to the rear division of movements of the enemy in that direction.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR, No. 163. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Railroad Bridge, Six Miles from Hicksford,
December 9, 1864—4 p. m.

One full ration of fresh beef and one-half ration of bread will be issued to the troops to-night. One-half rations of sugar and coffee may also be issued if desired.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 164. } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—6.15 p. m.

The object of the expedition having been accomplished, the command will commence to return to-morrow. General Gregg will send one brigade, to be at these headquarters at 6 a. m., to precede the command to Sussex Court-House. This will be followed by Griffin's division in charge of the trains. General Ayres will begin to withdraw from his present position at 7 a. m., and will follow General Griffin. General Mott will remain in his present position until General Ayres has passed him, when he will follow. General Crawford will maintain his present position until all the infantry has passed him. General Gregg, with his remaining two brigades, will cover the movement. Each command in marching to-morrow will deploy a strong line of skirmishers well out to the right and left to bring in all those who have straggled from their commands. The object of this arrangement is to guard against petty annoyances. Any earnest offer of battle by the enemy will be accepted and the movement modified as far as necessary to accept it by the part of the command against whom the attempt is made. Headquarters will remain in its present position until General Mott's division has passed. It is announced to the command that General Gregg drove the enemy's cavalry across the Meherrin River and into their fortifications at Hicksford in a gallant manner, in which we have to lament, among others, the loss of Major Sargent. The railroad was destroyed to Hicksford.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

ORDERS.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 9, 1864—7.30 p. m.

The command will be ready to move at 6 a. m. to-morrow. Order of march: Second Brigade, Third Brigade, Mink's battery, First Brigade.

By command of Brevet Major-General Griffin:

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 9, 1864—6 p. m.

[General WARREN:]

GENERAL: The destruction of the railroad is complete. The bridge has been effectually destroyed. I have withdrawn the troops of my command to the north of the river. The officer commanding the regiments of cavalry still in our rear was here before your return. He desires some instructions for the night. I can communicate with him, if you desire. My pickets have been established around my command from toward Griffin across the railroad to the east of the Halifax road.

Very respectfully,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

WASHINGTON, *December 9, 1864—4 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. FRANK WHEATON,
Commanding First Division, Sixth Corps:

I shall leave to-morrow with the Second Division.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 9, 1864—2.15 p. m.

General WHEATON,
Commanding Reserves, Sixth Corps:

You will move at once out the Vaughan road and take position near Tucker's, or between that and Thompson's, so as to cover the two roads to Fort Cummings and co-operate with General Miles, who is directed to remain at the crossing of Hatcher's Run. You will connect with him, and, at any rate, keep the Vaughan road open. You had better stop and see me on your way out. I will send a staff officer with you who knows that country, if he returns in time.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Major CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: As it is directed, in case of a movement, that I am to remain within the defenses, and this division is to be placed at the command of Brigadier-General Wheaton, who is directed to make such consolidation as he may deem proper, I would prefer to take an entire brigade from the Third Division for duty in the forts, &c., that have been indicated to me. At present these details are made so that two small brigades, of, say, 1,000 each, will report to General Wheaton. I can give him, and would prefer to do so, one strong brigade. Please inform me, by return of the bearer, whether I may effect such change, which I do not do at once because the details have been reported to the major-general commanding the Second Corps.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General SEYMOUR,
Commanding Third Division, Sixth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs me to say that he considers it desirable for you to take an entire brigade from the Third Division for duty in the forts under your command in case of a movement, provided the number in that brigade does not exceed in number the force already designated to hold the forts, pickets, picket reserves, &c.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Yellow Tavern, Va., December 9, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report to the major-general commanding that I am at the Yellow House during the night.

T. SEYMOUR,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—7.15 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Five deserters Sixtieth Alabama have just come in. Do not know of any movement of troops. Think their own immediate reserves have gone, but do not know where.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—11.20 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In addition to the five deserters reported this a. m. two more have come in. They belong to Wise's brigade. They do not know of any movement of troops. Two of our men deserted last night, both foreigners and belong to the Thirty-second Maine.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—1.40 p. m. (Sent 2.10 p. m.)

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you at once concentrate your reserve Third Division, or Provisional Brigade, on the Jerusalem plank road near Fort Stevenson, and that it there be held in readiness for any movement that may be ordered. It is possible it may be necessary to assemble your remaining reserves at the same place to-night.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—8 p. m. (Received 8.35 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The Third Division is now concentrated on the Jerusalem plank road. Three deserters from the Thirty-fifth Georgia, Thomas' brigade, Wilcox's division, have just come in, crossing the river in boat. They know of no movement, excepting some of Early's troops coming down from Richmond; think it was Gordon's division.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., NINTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 115. } *December 9, 1864.*

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II. The following-named regiments are hereby temporarily detached from their respective brigades and will constitute a provisional brigade under the command of Bvt. Col. G. P. Robinson, Third Maryland Battalion, to whom commanding officers of the regiments will report: Third Maryland Battalion Veteran Volunteers, One hundred and ninth Regiment New York Volunteers, Fifty-seventh Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, Thirty-seventh Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers, Sixtieth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Bvt. Col. G. P. Robinson will report to Bvt. Maj. Gen. Robert B. Potter, commanding Second Division, Ninth Army Corps, for orders.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. O. B. Willcox:

ROBT. A. HUTCHINS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—2.05 p. m.

Major-General POTTER,
Commanding Reserve of Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: Hold your command ready to move at once without trains; merely light headquarters wagons and seven ambulances.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. G. GRIFFIN,
Commanding Second Brigade:

GENERAL: You will hold your command (the portion designated for movement) in readiness to move at once, without train, merely with light headquarters wagons and ambulances.

By command of Brevet Major-General Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Brigadier-General HARTRANFT,
Commanding Third Division, &c.:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs that you at once concentrate your division on the Jerusalem plank road near Fort Stevenson, and there hold it in readiness for any movement that may be ordered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. L. VAN BUREN,
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

P. S.—The major-general also directs that you move your troops by rear roads out of view of the enemy, and that you report to him the arrival of your command in its new position.

V. B.

JONES' HOUSE, *December 9, 1864—7 p. m.*

Major-General PARKE,
Ninth Army Corps:

My command is concentrated on the Jerusalem plank road, and have reported to Brevet Major-General Potter.

HARTRANFT.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. LEDLIE, U. S. Volunteers:
(Through commanding officer Ninth Corps.)

GENERAL: In transmitting to you the accompanying order* requiring you to proceed to your home and there await further orders, I am directed by the major-general commanding to say that he has been instructed by Lieutenant-General Grant to inform you that you cannot have here again another command.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have two prisoners—one belonging to Butler's and the other to W. H. F. Lee's division of cavalry. One of the prisoners says Hampton's whole force is here, save that left on picket. Hampton's command left Petersburg yesterday morning, when they first heard that the Fifth Corps had moved. Please inform me when my command will withdraw to the north side of the creek, that I may arrange about feeding, &c. It will greatly facilitate my crossing if a double bridge is laid. Strong parties are at work on the railroad.

Yours, respectfully,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. I. GREGG,
Commanding Second Brigade, Second Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The general commanding directs that you withdraw your brigade from its present position at such an hour to-morrow morning as will enable you to report with it at General Warren's headquarters (on the railroad, one mile and a half in rear of Three Creek) at 6 a. m. Your brigade will be in advance of the infantry on the return march. You will leave one squadron at the ford where your brigade is now camped, which will be withdrawn when the rear of the command leaves the creek.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Special Orders, No. 333, p. 896.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. IRVIN GREGG,
Comdg. 2d Brig., 2d Cav. Div., Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: As you are required to be at General Warren's headquarters at 6 a. m. to-morrow, the general commanding directs that you move your brigade at 4.30 a. m. General Warren's headquarters are about three miles back on the road to Jarratt's Station.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
C. TAYLOR,
Major and Inspector, Second Cav. Div., Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—12.15 a. m.

Colonel KERWIN,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general directs me to inform you that a division of infantry will be sent out at daylight in the morning to force the passage of Hatcher's Run at the Vaughan road, and to direct that the movement of the cavalry under your command be in conjunction with it, and that you will report to the officer in command of the infantry and be subordinate to him. Major-General Humphreys will tell you who he is, and give you any instructions that may be necessary if any different from those you have.

By command of Major-General Meade:
WILLIAM RIDDLE,
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—1.55 a. m.

Colonel KERWIN,
Commanding Cavalry:

The commanding general directs that you move out to-morrow morning on the Vaughan road instead of the Halifax road, and report to Major-General Miles, commanding First Division of this corps, who will move on the same road with his division.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:
SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9, 1864—3.15 a. m.

Colonel KERWIN,
Commanding Cavalry:

I am directed by the major-general commanding to inform you that you will receive orders from Major-General Humphreys to move on the Vaughan road instead of the Halifax road, as before ordered.

I am, colonel, very respectfully, &c.,
WILLIAM RIDDLE,
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE,
New Berne, N. C., December 9, 1864.

Lieut. Col. G. H. HITCHCOCK, *Comdg. Outposts, Batchelder's Creek:*

COLONEL: The colonel commanding directs that you immediately draw in all the outpost guards under your command, with the exception of those of the Ninety-ninth New York Volunteers.

You will draw the three days' rations of hard bread, coffee, sugar, and pork, and march with all your available force, with sixty rounds of ammunition, at 9 o'clock to-night. You will take with you all the guides now at Batchelder's Creek, take the Neuse road, and march as far as Core Creek, and then await further orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. T. PARKINSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send you two dispatches,* all the information received this morning. Eight men deserted to the enemy yesterday and last night from the Second Corps. Two men were ordered to be hung at 12 to-day convicted of desertion to the enemy. I have directed Major-General Humphreys to commence withdrawing the troops under Miles at 2 p. m. to-day. The men having suffered very much from the storm of last night, I wished to give them time to get in their camps before dark. I have directed Major-General Parke to hold his available reserves, about 8, 00, ready on the Jerusalem plank road, to move at a moment's notice, without trains, to Warren's relief, if necessary. The cavalry will accompany this command. Should the contingency arise before the arrival of the division of the Sixth Corps, I propose to move up General Benham's command to support Parke's line. If this meets with your approval I would be glad that General Benham should be so notified.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—1.20 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I think it advisable to move with all the force you can to Warren's relief. Benham will be ordered up as you suggest. I don't think there should be any delay in starting out re-enforcements to Warren.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—1.28 p. m.*
(Received 1.32 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

What point will you have Benham sent to? He will be sent out by rail as soon as he can be got off.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

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* See Humphreys to Meade, 12.30 p. m., p. 927, and Fisher to Meade, transmitting signal dispatch of 10.35 a. m., p. 925.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—1.50 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Benham can be moved by rail and landed at Meade's Station, from whence he can report to General Parke.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—2.10 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

I sent to General Shepley, at Norfolk, to know if he has heard from Warren and to try and communicate with him. I have also notified Shepley that it is barely possible Warren may be forced to make into Suffolk, and, if so, he will want rations and forage immediately. Has your provost-marshal got a scout who by working eastward might reach Warren? If so, send him orders to avoid danger by going to Suffolk if necessary.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—3 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Do the enemy keep such a force between you and Warren as to prevent your cavalry from pushing out to see and learn the movements of the enemy and our own troops?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—3 p. m. (Sent 3.35 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I will send a scout with General Potter, commanding troops sent to Warren's support, who will leave Potter at the Nottoway, and try to make his way to Warren. In the meantime Sharpe, from City Point, and Shepley, from Norfolk, might send one if they can from Suffolk. Warren was directed to return by way of Jerusalem, which is on the road from Hicksford to Suffolk. If he takes that route it will be risky for Potter to go too far from here. I have just received your dispatch of 3 p. m. I do not know what there is between Warren and this army. The road to the crossing of the Nottoway was open on the day after Warren left, when a squadron of cavalry returned with his stragglers. The handful of cavalry I have have been on the extreme left, and are now returning, and will be sent with General Potter and pushed in advance to obtain information, by which his movements will be guided.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

General Ord reports on information of deserters that Hoke's division is still in his front. Was it not supposed that this division had gone to Petersburg? There has been an attack threatened all afternoon north of the James.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—7.40 p. m. (Sent 7.45 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward dispatches* from signal officer and from General Miles, who just before withdrawing had some skirmishing with the enemy across Hatcher's Run. General Potter's column moved at 6 p. m. He has orders to march all night and not to halt till he gets to the Nottoway. A regiment of engineers, with a canvas bridge, accompanies him. The cavalry required time to get ammunition, rations, and forage, but as soon as supplied will be pushed after him. Your dispatch of 7.35 [7.30] just received. I have presumed Hoke to be in my front, but believe the information came from you, I supposed, through General Butler. I will inquire if any deserters have reported him here.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—8.25 p. m. (Sent 8.45 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

On application to the provost-marshal department I find there has been no information received here of Hoke's being in our front. A report existed at one time that he had gone to North Carolina, but was not considered reliable. The intelligence of his being south of the Appomattox having come from you, I presumed it was based on information from General Butler's line and was undoubted. You will perceive the signal officers continued to report to-day, as they have for several days past, the movement of troops into Petersburg from the direction of Richmond. If these are all of Early's army, he cannot have left many in the Valley.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—5.45 p. m.

Capt. P. SCHUYLER, *Assistant Provost-Marshal-General:*

SIR: The commanding general directs that Lieutenant-Colonel Walsh, Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, with all his available force, report to Colonel Kerwin, at the camp of the headquarters Second Cavalry Division, with the least delay possible. The command will be prepared to be absent four days.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Fisher to Meade, 5 p. m., p. 925, and Miles to Carneross, 2.40 p. m., p. 928.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Thirty-fifth Georgia, Thomas' brigade, came into our lines at noon yesterday. They report no changes in position of Thomas' brigade, which still holds the line between Swift Creek and the Appomattox, Pickett's right and Johnson's left. No other force between these divisions. Deserters from Wise's and Ransom's brigades, of Johnson's division, came into the lines of the Ninth Army Corps this a. m. No change in Johnson's front since the moving to the right day before yesterday. The division is considerably extended, and the intervals very great. Informants had heard of the arrival of part of Early's command, which took position somewhere on the right; had not heard of the movement of Hill's corps.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Two deserters from Forty-eighth Virginia, Terry's brigade, Gordon's division, came into our lines on Colonel Nugent's front, Second Army Corps, during the night; are recent conscripts, and joined their command the day before it left New Market for Richmond; estimate the force that left the Valley at 7,000; could see the entire column, trains and all, at points on the way from New Market to Waynesborough, where they took the cars; cannot tell what part of the line they are now occupying, but it is a portion of that lately held by Heth's division.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Fifteen prisoners of war, taken by the Second Army Corps, General Miles' division, to-day, represent the cavalry brigades of Barringer and Butler, W. H. F. Lee's division. From one of them, who was at Dinwiddie Court-House on Thursday last, we learn that A. P. Hill's corps passed that place, said en route for Weldon. Their latest information of the Fifth Army Corps was at Jarratt's Station. Wickham's brigade of cavalry has lately left the Valley and joined the cavalry on north side of the James. Prisoners think we could have easily taken the South Side Railroad to-day, there being nothing to prevent; admit having falsely reported to one of our generals a large body of infantry near where they were captured, there being none in

the vicinity. Scout Skinner, dressed in rebel uniform, circulated among them in the Bull Pen this evening, and elicited the foregoing information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The Church road station reports:

10.35 A. M.

There is now a column of infantry moving westward on Boydton plank road, nine minutes in passing a point 15 degrees west of north from this station. They apparently came out of enemy's front line of works north from this place. The column was well closed up and marched rapidly. Too smoky to discern any changes in enemy's camp. At 8 a. m. three trains of cars passed in direction of Petersburg on South Side Railroad. At 8.45 a. m. two trains passed out from Petersburg; could not distinguish the number of cars.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The Church road station reports:

At 1 p. m. a train of cars passed westward upon the South Side Railroad. The number of cars could not be distinguished. At 2.10 p. m. a train of fifteen wagons and one piece of artillery and one caisson passed westward upon the Boydton plank road. It was too misty to discern whether there were any changes in the enemy's camps.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 10, 1864—5 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

The following report from station near Friend's house is respectfully forwarded:

At 2.10 p. m. caught sight of column of enemy's infantry on road just west of Richmond pike and parallel thereto. They were moving toward Petersburg, and were steadily passing a given point for fifteen minutes. The head of the column was not seen, as a few minutes before observing the movement the road was enveloped in fog. Quite a number of stragglers followed the column.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 10, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain PAINE,
Signal Officer:

No change has been observed. The following have been intercepted:

8.30 A. M.

Major P.:

Three trains have been heard to pass rear of Battery 5 since last evening. At 10 p. m. the trains appeared to be running in both directions.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

3.30 P. M.

Major P.:

I report there have passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, two trains, one of eleven and the other of fifteen box-cars, and eleven wagons. In rear of same battery, going toward City Point, three trains of cars and two or three wagons.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—2 p. m.

General H. W. BENHAM,
City Point:

The commanding general directs that you move at once to Meade's Station by railroad, with all the available infantry force at City Point subject to your orders, exclusive of the troops belonging to General Patrick's command. The works will be left in charge of the artillery. You will call upon the quartermaster's department for the necessary transportation. On arriving at Meade's Station you will report for further orders to Major-General Parke, whose headquarters are near that place.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
December 10, 1864.

Capt. S. CHESTER,
Commanding Provisional Companies:

You will proceed with the troops under your command by rail to Meade's Station. On arriving there you will report to Major-General Parke, saying to him that the commanding general will report in person as soon as the command gets away from here. You will give the same orders to Lieutenant-Colonel Walcott and Lieutenant-Colonel Clough.

By order of Brigadier-General Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—12.15 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

At 2 o'clock you will commence withdrawing the troops sent on reconnaissance yesterday. They will return to their former positions. Colonel Kerwin will report his return to these headquarters.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

I have this moment heard some rapid artillery firing about south from here, and very distant. It is still going on. Upon inquiring I learn that a medical officer from General Miles' command just in reports having heard artillery firing before he left the division. I have sent for him and will let you know what he says.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—1.10 p. m. (Received 1.20 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding:

The officer from Miles' command (an ambulance officer) states the artillery firing was first heard at about 11 or 11.30 o'clock, and was rapid. It was still heard a few minutes ago.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—1.45 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Withdraw the cavalry at once and direct Colonel Kerwin to prepare his command for immediate movement and report to these headquarters in person at once.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

[Indorsement.]

Received 1.50 p. m., and the order issued immediately to General Miles.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—2 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Where are the headquarters reserves and what disposition have you made of the stragglers from the Second and Fifth Corps? I am about

sending Parke's reserves to help Warren, and if these stragglers can be used they will go with this force and would increase it. I want Spaulding and his regiment with a bridge train to go along.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—2 p. m.

General MEADE:

General Spaulding, with his regiment, is at his camp near Fort Clarke. Colonel Tippin, with the other troops, including the Regular Engineer Battalion, is with General Miles. I have just sent to have them brought in ahead of everything. The stragglers of the Second Corps are with General Gibbon; those of the Fifth Corps are in the intrenchments on the front of the First Division. I will send word to Colonel Spaulding what you want and direct him to report at once in person at your headquarters.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—3.15 p. m. (Received 3.25 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

A detachment of the cavalry went down the Vaughan road this morning as far as Mrs. Hargrave's, near Quaker road; found considerable force of cavalry there. About 9 a. m. he heard artillery firing. The people of the country said they had heard it since daylight. For half an hour it was quite rapid. The report states that the direction was that of Dinwiddie Court-House, but a staff officer who has just returned gives me information that makes the direction about that of Hicksford, or that vicinity. The staff officer informs me the cavalry report having heard the firing continuously with intervals since then.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—4 p. m. (Received 4.15 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy attacked me at each ford. At the upper ford infantry are reported. They were repulsed at each place. I am withdrawing my command. The enemy may follow after we withdraw from the fords.

I am, very respectfully,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brevet Major-General.

Respectfully forwarded.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Direct General Wheaton to move with his reserves to his extreme right and near the plank road, that he may be available to move to Parke's support in case of necessity. I have sent all Parke's reserves to support Warren. Let Wheaton notify Parke where he is to be found.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—5 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

Reported this p. m. two trains of cars at 1 p. m. going westward on South Side Railroad. Between 2.30 and 3.30 p. m. two regiments of infantry, about 250 each, moved in direction of Petersburg on Cox road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864. (Received 5.15 p. m.)

General MEADE:

I suppose all the reserves of the Sixth Corps are to go with Wheaton, including those of Seymour. I have so directed, but can correct if erroneous.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—6 p. m

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I only intended moving Wheaton's reserves to the right so as to be as near as possible to assisting Parke in case of emergency.

GEO. G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—6.06 p. m.

General MEADE:

Miles sent in fifteen prisoners taken to-day. They belong to Barringer's brigade. Say that 500 came down to crossings of Hatcher's Run to-day. Infantry was to have accompanied them, but they started before the infantry. They say that several brigades of infantry and some artillery went south on the Boydton road yesterday; whose brigades or division they could not say. They report an engagement yesterday at the station beyond Stony Creek Station. General Miles is of

opinion that considerable force of infantry moved out of the intrenchments to-day toward the crossings of Hatcher's Run and toward Armstrong's, in the vicinity of which they were heard slashing.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

The troops of this command now on a reconnaissance and those in support of it will be withdrawn this afternoon, commencing at 2 o'clock. Major-General Miles is charged with the conduct of the withdrawal. The troops will return to their former positions. When the troops of the First Division begin to arrive at the intrenchments General Gibbon will withdraw his brigade to its former position, and the command of the line of the First Division will devolve upon General Miles, to whom Colonel Nugent will report. General Wheaton will send back the brigade of the Third Division, Sixth Army Corps, to report to General Seymour. He will resume the command of the line of intrenchments held by his troops, reporting the fact of his arrival to General Seymour. The commanders of the batteries of artillery will be ordered to report to Lieutenant-Colonel Hazard, chief of artillery, Second Army Corps. Colonel Kerwin will be directed to report his return to the headquarters of the army. Colonel Tippin, upon returning to the headquarters of the army, will report his arrival there.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

The circulars of December 7 and 8, making preparatory assignments and disposition of the troops of the command, with other instructions in the event of a movement, will still remain in force.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Cummings' House, December 10, 1864—1.45 p. m.

[Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:]

MAJOR: A party of cavalry numbering 200 have been down the Vaughan road to Mrs. Hargrave's. The officer in command reports that he found a considerable force of cavalry about half a mile beyond the creek crossing the road at that point. He reports having heard artillery firing in the direction of Dinwiddie Court-House, for about half an hour, quite rapid. Citizens reported that there had been artillery heard since daylight from the same direction. He was there about 9 o'clock. I have seen no indication of the infantry force reported as having passed down the Boydton road this morning. The enemy are

slashing timber in the woods in front of my cavalry pickets near R. Armstrong's house, on the Duncan road, near the barn on the map. I have sent a force of cavalry to the ford where the Halifax road crosses Hatcher's Run.

Very respectfully,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

The command will move promptly to-morrow morning at daylight. The following will be the order of march: First, First Brigade, General De Trobriand; second, Second Brigade, General Pierce; third, Battery B, Fourth U. S. Artillery, and headquarters wagons; fourth, Third Brigade, Brevet Brigadier-General McAllister, followed by the ambulance train.

The camp guards will be carefully posted and exercise the utmost vigilance to-night, as the enemy are pressing us very closely. Flankers will be kept well out to-morrow, and small detachments left at the roads leading from the main road until the rear guard comes up.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

CHAS. F. MOORE,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that Brevet Major Sleeper, Tenth Massachusetts Battery, was ordered to report to Brigadier-General Wheaton yesterday. One section of Clark's (B), First New Jersey Artillery, which has been in reserve, was placed in Fort Welch in addition to its former armament of six guns. Nothing else worthy of remark has occurred within the past twenty-four hours.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. HAZARD,
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—4 p. m. (Received 11 a. m. 11th.)

Major-General WARREN:

General Potter, with a force, moves to the Nottoway in hopes of being able to support you. This is taken by a scout, who will inform you of Potter's position and movements. Try and communicate with Potter in return, and if you are pressed you can move to Suffolk, where supplies are ready for you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

The infantry and artillery will resume the march from their present bivouacs at 7 a. m. to-morrow. General Griffin will be accompanied by the pontoon train. Secure the crossing of the Nottoway at Freeman's Ford and protect the laying of the bridge. On arriving at the banks of the stream the infantry will halt and mass. The cavalry will allow all infantry to pass it beyond Sussex Court-House and then follow. They will cross the Nottoway River at once upon arriving there.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—5.45 a. m.

General GRIFFIN:

The cavalry brigade will begin to pass you about 6.30 a. m. Then follow it. It will bring you past my headquarters, where I will furnish you a guide.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—5.45 a. m.

General AYRES:

Owing to the darkness of the morning, the cavalry will not get along quite as quick as I thought, so that you may run on to Griffin's column. If so, mass your troops till he gets out of the way.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—5.05 p. m.

Brigadier-General SEYMOUR:

GENERAL: The reserves of your division must continue with Wheaton, who is directed to mass on his right, near the Jerusalem plank road.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—6 p. m.

Brigadier-General SEYMOUR:

GENERAL: The reserves of your division will not accompany General Wheaton. They will remain under your orders where they were before the move.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing of interest has transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours. It is thought that the picket-line in front of Forts Davis and Alexander Hays has been weakened; also that new troops now occupy the enemy's line. No deserters have been reported since the three mentioned in my report of last night.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-Genera

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Two deserters from Twenty-fifth North Carolina just reported. Left their camp about 4 a. m. Report no change in their line. Know of no movement beyond the report of some of Early's men moving to our left. Don't know what amount of force.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 9 [10], 1864—12.40 p. m.

Major-General PARKE:

You will hold all your available reserves ready for a prompt movement down to the Jerusalem plank road, under Brevet Major-General Potter, to assist in the return of Major-General Warren's forces, should such be necessary. The command will take the four days' rations and sixty rounds of ammunition on the person, and forty rounds loaded lightly on pack-mules, a few ambulances, and the minimum allowance of hospital stores; no baggage wagons on any pretext, but pack-mules for headquarters use may be taken from general supply train. The cavalry with the army, under Colonel Kerwin, will be sent. Please have all preliminary arrangements made so that no time will be lost in case the order is sent you.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—1.45 p. m. (Sent 2 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE:

Direct General Potter to move at once, or as soon as possible, in accordance with the preparatory order of this morning, and to report here in person without delay for instructions. Brigadier-General Benham, with reserves from City Point, will report to you. I have ordered him to Meade's Station with his command.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—2.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding:

Shall I send any artillery with General Potter?

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—2.30 p. m. (Sent 2.35 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE:

Colonel Kerwin, of the cavalry, who is going with Potter, will have a battery of horse artillery. You can send this order to the commanding officer of that battery, with directions for him to report to Potter, and accompany his column, should it move before the cavalry join, as they are now coming in from the left and may be delayed. This battery will be found near Gregg's headquarters on the plank road.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—6.30 p. m. (Received 6.40 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE:

Colonel Hazard will send the wagons to you. General Wheaton is ordered to move his reserve to his extreme right, near Jerusalem plank road. His headquarters will be at the Jones house. Should you need re-enforcements from him you must send staff officers to conduct them, since he knows nothing whatever of the roads, intrenchments on his right, &c.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864. (Sent 9.10 p. m.)

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Have General Benham's troops reported to you yet, and, if so, can you let me know about the strength of the command he brought with him?

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864. (Received 9.45 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS:

General Benham's troops have not yet reported. I had a dispatch from General Benham in the evening, stating that his troops were then being loaded up. He reports about 2,100 men.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
Jones' House, December 10, 1864—11 p. m.

General PARKE:

By order of General Humphreys two brigades of my division are moved to the right—one near Fort Alexander Hays, the other to the woods between Fort Davis and Fort Alexander Hays, and, as directed, my headquarters are here. I am here as a support to your line, and shall report to-morrow in person, if I can find your headquarters. If you desire any movement of my troops, please send a guide, as neither myself nor staff are familiar with the woods or works.

F. WHEATON,
Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—2 p. m.

Brevet Major-General POTTER:

GENERAL: You will immediately move with your command down the Jerusalem plank road to the support of Major-General Warren. Colonel Kerwin, commanding a cavalry force 700 strong, with a battery of horse artillery, and Colonel Spaulding, with an engineer regiment 700 strong and 300 feet of canvas bridging, will report to you and accompany you. You will march without intermission to the Nottoway River and across that stream to Sussex Court-House, from which point you will send out your cavalry toward the Weldon railroad at Jarratt's, sending a party down the left bank of the Nottoway toward Jerusalem to endeavor to ascertain General Warren's position and communicate with him. General Warren left here on the 7th with six days' rations. His advance was at Sussex Court-House on the night of the 7th, and he expected to strike the railroad at Jarratt's on the 8th. He was instructed to destroy it as far as Hicksford and return by way of Jerusalem. To-day being his fourth day, unless prevented by the enemy, he should be on his return to-morrow. It is possible, on reaching the Nottoway, you may obtain information that would render it imprudent to cross where General Warren crossed. In this case you can move down to Allen's Bridge, leaving guards at the upper bridge or crossing to notify you of any movements, and from Allen's Bridge you can send to Sussex Court-House and toward Jarratt's and down to Jerusalem. It is difficult to give precise instructions, as you must be governed by circumstances and information acquired on the road. The great object is to assist General Warren, but in attempting this you must be careful not to place your command in a position to have it isolated, but must keep open your line of retreat toward the James River and this army. A scout will be sent with you who will endeavor to get through to General Warren, and by whom you will notify General Warren of your position and movements, and inform that officer that if compelled he can move over to Suffolk, where supplies will be ready for him. Should you obtain information indicating the impracticability of re-enforcing Warren and rendering your own command in jeopardy, you will return to this army, sending a courier in advance to notify me of the fact. You will also, from time to time, keep me advised of your movements, sending your dispatches with sufficient escort to prevent their being captured by guerrillas.

Very respectfully, &c.,

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864. (Received 5.57 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

My troops are in motion, excepting the rear guard and the detachment of engineers, &c. I cannot raise packs enough for more than fifteen rounds of ammunition, and unless I take wagons cannot carry the forty rounds required.

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—6.05 p. m.

Maj. Gen. R. B. POTTER,
Second Division, Ninth Army Corps:

Your dispatch received. The commanding general says fifteen rounds of ammunition per man, in addition to the sixty rounds required to be carried on the person, will be sufficient. He thinks you had better not take any wagons. Colonel Kerwin, who has just left here for the camp headquarters Second Cavalry Division, for supplies for his command, will send an officer to show you the road by way of Lee's Mill. The plank road opposite to Lee's Mill is obstructed.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER BATTERY HORSE ARTILLERY:

SIR: I send you copy of dispatch* received from headquarters Army of the Potomac, from the tenor of which you will see that in case the cavalry, which is to accompany a column of my command to be sent forward, does not come up in time to march with it, you are to move with Brevet Major-General Potter, who will command these troops, and you will accordingly report to that officer for instructions. His headquarters are at the Jones house.

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

P. M. LYDIG,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864.

Capt. F. B. ALLIBONE,
Ordnance Officer, Second Cavalry Division:

SIR: The commanding general has just learned that you have no ammunition on hand for Burnside carbines, and he directs me to inquire why you have not in reserve the prescribed quantity of ammunition of that description. A cavalry force, which it is of importance should

* See Meade to Parke, 2.30 p. m., p. 934.

move at once, is delayed for the want of ammunition. A supply of Burnside ammunition has been ordered by a special train and is expected to arrive soon at Hancock's Station. The commanding general directs that you at once proceed to that station, and that as soon as the ammunition arrives you take it to the camp of the headquarters Cavalry Division, and issue it to Colonel Kerwin's command with the least delay possible.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 10, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Colonel KERWIN,
Commanding Cavalry:

COLONEL: The commanding general has just learned that two of your regiments armed with Burnside carbines have no ammunition. He, therefore, directs that you do not commence your movement to-night until the Burnside ammunition, which has been ordered from City Point, and which is to come by a special train to Hancock's Station, and for the delivery of which to you arrangements have been made, reaches you.

The commanding general is much surprised to find that you are out of ammunition, and directs me to inquire why you have no reserve ammunition on hand of all the kinds used by your troops. The moment the ammunition which has been sent for reaches you the commanding general directs that you proceed to execute the instructions you have received from himself and Brevet Major-General Potter.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to make the following report: The command will move as soon as the ammunition is received. I was left in command here on the morning of the 7th, was ordered out at noon, and have been out with the command almost continuously ever since. Every man of the command has been engaged.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. KERWIN,
Colonel Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
Ordnance Office, December 10, 1864.

Col. M. KERWIN,
Commanding Second Division, Cavalry Corps:

COLONEL: In compliance with orders received from you I have the honor to make the following report:

When the division marched on the 7th instant I had in the reserve ammunition train, under my charge, the full supply of ammunition as

required by existing orders. In obedience to orders of Brigadier-General Gregg I sent with the command eleven wagons, leaving the ten remaining in park fully loaded, as I have a quantity of other ordnance stores on hand, received on the evening of the 6th instant, and which the regiments were unable to receive. Since this morning I have issued all the Burnside carbine cartridges, but have in my train the other ammunition required by the regiments now here, and have telegraphed to City Point for the Burnside carbine cartridges.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK B. ALLIBONE,
Capt. and Acting Ordnance Officer, Second Div., Cavalry Corps.

FORT MONROE, *December 10, 1864—11.45 a. m.*

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

Has been blowing a gale ever since we arrived; is clearing up a little. We are all ready waiting for the navy. Any news from Warren or Sherman?

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Fortress Monroe:

Nothing from Sherman or Warren. Heavy cannonading was heard south of Petersburg very distant this forenoon.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *December 10, 1864—1.20 p. m.*

General TURNER:

Is General Ord in command north side of the river? A dispatch just received from General Terry would indicate that he was. Answer quick, as I want to give directions to the officer in command.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 10, 1864—1.28 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Ord is in command. He arrived this morning.

JOHN W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 10, 1864—7 p. m.

General BUTLER, *Fort Monroe:*

Field's division came down the Darbytown road to-day and made a feeble attempt to penetrate between Signal Hill redoubt and Camp Holly redoubt. He was easily stopped.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

FORT MONROE, VA., *December 10, 1864—3.30 p. m.*
(Received 4 p. m.)

Hon. G. V. FOX, *Assistant Secretary of the Navy:*

We would like some more men, about 200 at once, to fill up discharged men's places. They can follow us down. Mostly seamen and ordinary seamen.

D. D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

[HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 10, 1864.]

Lieutenant CRAFT,
Signal Officer, Headquarters Twenty-fourth Corps:

Ask the signal officers and commanding officers of the redoubts at Signal Hill and Camp Holly whether they have been informed by General Terry that the enemy are reported coming down the Darbytown road. Also whether they have any indications of that fact, and inquire where Colonel Jourdan's headquarters are. Answer at once.

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 10, 1864.

Lieutenant KETCHUM, *Signal Hill:*

Have you or the commanding officers at Signal Hill and Camp Holly been informed by General Terry that the enemy are advancing down the Darbytown road, and have they had any indications of the enemy, and also if they know where Colonel Jourdan's headquarters are? Also tell Beardslee to go to Camp Holly and help at that station.

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

Captain NORTON:

Lieutenant Ketchum, at Signal Hill, sends the following dispatch:

"The enemy's pickets are between this place and Camp Holly, in the woods about thirty yards from line between the two forts. Fort Holly is all right."

CRAFT,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the commanding general.

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Camp and Defenses, City Point, December 10, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General ABBOT:

DEAR COLONEL: General Benham has been ordered to the Petersburg front, with nearly all the troops on these lines. They go to-night or to-morrow morning, for an emergency, I understand. He says it is proposed to leave me here in charge of artillery, and infantry, and camp, &c. I write to learn if you know anything of the matter, or wish to give me any orders on the subject.

In haste, yours,

THOS. S. TRUMBULL,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 10, 1864—1.50 p. m.

General ORD,
Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

An officer just from Jourdan reports the affair as very small; but little firing. The enemy have shown no force of any size. The cavalry came in, but Jourdan sent them back.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 10, 1864—1.50 p. m.

General ORD,
Twenty-fourth Corps:

The following just received from Kautz:

The enemy is in considerable force in front of Spring Hill and Camp Holly. I have two regiments skirmishing with the enemy in front of the work. One officer and several men reported wounded. The enemy is also advancing down Four-Mile Creek. The strength of the enemy is not fully known, but the cavalry report it much superior to their force, but are not able to say whether it is cavalry dismounted or infantry.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864. (Received 2.30 p. m.)

General TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

Order the infantry from Dutch Gap as proposed, provided it uncovers nothing of importance.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—3.30 p. m.

General TURNER:

Terry, on my right, reports that prisoners say Field's division is advancing on the interval between the Signal Hill and Camp Holly. He is at Signal Hill. Send Major Michie to Terry to help him arrange his troops, and if any batteries en route hurry them forward to him.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—1.24 p. m.*

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Army of the James:

Have your command under arms ready to receive an attack and reserves ready to move to any part of the lines most threatened. The enemy may think you enough weakened to justify them in a general attack.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—2 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The dispositions are made, and men under arms. Enemy in considerable force are reported by General Kautz as in front of Camp Holly and Spring Hill. They are skirmishing with our cavalry. A few casualties so far. Kautz says another force (enemy's) is advancing down the Four-Mile Creek. Strength of the enemy not known, but the cavalry report is much superior to their force. Richmond papers state we will probably attack them (the rebels) to-day; hence this may be only a reconnaissance.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—3 p. m.*

Major-General ORD,
Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

The enemy have probably detached so heavily from the north side that they have become nervous lest we attack them there. If they do not attack you, I think it will be well to push out and see what the enemy have got.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 10, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

General Kautz reports at 5.30 p. m. that a prisoner of the Eighth North Carolina represents that Kershaw has taken post in front of Fort Harrison, and that Hoke's and Field's divisions received orders at 1 o'clock last night and marched out on the Charles City and Darby-

town roads to our right, with three days' rations. Two deserters came in last night from the picket to the right of Fort Harrison, and state that they belong to Colquitt's brigade, Hoke's division, which division they say marched to the James River a few days since, but did not cross, turned around and came back. I have made the best disposition I could, and have small reserves ready to march to threatened points. At dark dropping shots were still being fired on the Signal Hill front.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864.*

General ORD,
Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

There is very good evidence that Hoke's division went south several days ago. If so, Field's and Kershaw's are the only two left. You can re-enforce by taking a part of your force from Bermuda. Your lines are very strong, and by rapidly moving your reserves from where they are not wanted to where they are, I think you will be able to hold against the enemy. It is hardly likely they will mass much force on your extreme right and endanger being cut off from Richmond. Great vigilance, however, will be necessary on your whole line, and especially so about daylight in the morning. It might be a proper precaution to send all your surplus teams south of the river or inside the fort at Deep Bottom.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864. (Received 12.20 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS:

The enemy have driven in our cavalry pickets at the Johnson farm, and are moving in what is reported to be a heavy force down the Darbytown road toward our right. I think it must be merely a reconnaissance. I will report again as soon as the object of the movement is developed.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

CITY POINT, *December 10, 1864—1 p. m.*

Major-General TERRY:

It is more than likely the enemy suspect we have weakened our lines north of the James much more than we have, and the object of the present move is to find out, but be prepared if there should be an attack on any part of your line.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—1.10 p. m.

General JOHN W. TURNER:

I can't yet determine what is the force which moved down the Darbytown road. One of Kershaw's brigades came, but what other troops I don't know. Heckman reports slight skirmishing on his front. On Devens' front the enemy doubled their pickets this morning, but have since reduced them to the usual number. Signal Hill and Camp Holly have been re-enforced, and the line connecting Camp Holly with the Deep Bottom line, is manned by about 500 of Kautz's men. I wrote to Heckman that he need not send a whole brigade, but only strong regiment to Jourdan. Is General Ord at department headquarters?

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 10, 1864—1.25 p. m.

General TERRY,
Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

General Ord is on the way to your headquarters. A battery of artillery is on the way from Bermuda to report to Jourdan; also a strong regiment and battery from Heckman.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—6.40 p. m.

General ORD:

The report that the enemy are intrenching near the Johnson house is confirmed by a report which I have just received from General Hawley. He reports that they are on the further side of the field. Everything is quiet, except that there is a little picket-firing in the slashing between the Signal Hill and Camp Holly redoubts. I respectfully suggest that General Kautz should keep Colonel Spear's cavalry during the night at the point on the New Market road where they have been during the day.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 10, 1864—6.50 p. m.

General TERRY:

Look to your ammunition, and have plenty ready early to-morrow morning, when it may be wanted.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

(Same to Brigadier-General Heckman.)

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—9.05 p. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

I make the following dispositions: Heckman's 600 go to the Deep Bottom line to relieve a corresponding or less number of Jourdan's troops, which, with Spear's men dismounted, will garrison the line connecting the Deep Bottom line with Camp Holly. Henry's brigade is assigned to the defense of the space between Camp Holly and Signal Hill. Two of the guns sent to me by Heckman will be placed in the redoubt in the line from Camp Holly to Deep Bottom; the remaining four guns will be placed in reserve near Kautz's headquarters. At 5 o'clock I intend to move Voris down the New Market road, until the head of his column reaches the ravine redoubt.

Since I commenced writing this I have received a report that a deserter has come in from the Palmetto Sharpshooters, of Kershaw's division, who says that the enemy are now retiring; that they had three divisions and were 15,000 strong. This, of course, must be an overestimate. His report is corroborated by one from Colonel McArthur, at Camp Holly, who has pushed his pickets out to the second house in front of his works without meeting opposition. This deserter has not yet arrived here.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

Brigadier-General DEVENS,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: General Ord has instructed me to have the troops under arms at 5 o'clock to-morrow morning, to remain ready to move until after sunrise. He also wishes to have all the wagons hitched up and ready to move at the same hour. Will you be so good as to see that these instructions are carried out in your division.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—12.55 p. m.

General ORD,
Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

The enemy have opened with their mortars upon Fort Burnham.
C. A. HECKMAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—2.40 p. m.

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Army of the James:

There has been no movement of the enemy discovered on my front. We have sustained no injury from their mortar practice.
C. A. HECKMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—3.20 p. m.

Major-General ORD, *Commanding Army of the James:*

I have sent in that direction one battery and 700 infantry. I have 1,200 left in reserve. Have ordered an additional battery and half of my reserve (600 men) to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

C. A. HECKMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—6.50 p. m.

Brevet Major-General TERRY, *Twenty-fourth Army Corps:*

The troops will be in readiness at the time specified. The officer commanding has been ordered to report to you in person.

C. A. HECKMAN,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—8.05 p. m.

Brigadier-General HECKMAN, *Comdg. Twenty-fifth Army Corps:*

GENERAL: Since I telegraphed to you I have received instructions to call on you for 600 men and a battery to-night. Please have them prepared to move at once, and I will send word where I want them soon.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 10, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General HECKMAN, *Commanding Twenty-fifth Corps:*

Send a staff officer to General Ferrero to conduct the Forty-third Regiment (colored), ordered to you, to its proper position. If it arrives to-night send the other half of your infantry reserves at 5 a. m. to report to General Terry at ravine redoubt, keeping the regiment from Ferrero.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Captain LANGDON, *Commanding Light Artillery Brigade:*

CAPTAIN: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you order a battery to report to Brigadier-General Jourdan, on the Kingsland road. The battery will move with all possible dispatch.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

First Lieut. H. H. METCALF, *Comdg. Fifth New Jersey Battery:*

SIR: The commanding officer directs that you will report to Brevet Brigadier-General Jourdan with your battery, on the Kingsland road, with all possible dispatch.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. M. HALL,
First Lieut., First U. S. Arty., Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Capt. L. L. LANGDON, *Commanding Artillery Brigade:*

The brigadier-general commanding directs that you order the officer commanding the battery now under marching orders to report in person to Brevet Major-General Terry without delay.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

First Lieut. H. H. METCALF, *Comdg. Fifth New Jersey Battery:*

SIR: The commanding officer directs that you will report in person, without your battery, to Brevet Major-General Terry without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. M. HALL,
First Lieut., First U. S. Arty., Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Capt. L. L. LANGDON, *Commanding Artillery Brigade:*

CAPTAIN: I am directed by Brig. Gen. C. A. Heckman to inform you that the battery now under marching orders will not be needed to-night, but will be harnessed and in readiness at 5 a. m. to-morrow, subject to orders from Brevet Major-General Terry.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General BATES, *Commanding First Division:*

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you order a strong regiment to report to Brigadier-General Jourdan, on the Kingsland road. The regiment will move with all possible dispatch.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General BATES,
Commanding Reserve Forces:

GENERAL: You will direct the detachment of your command now under marching orders to move at once down the Kingsland road to the Deep Bottom line and report to Brevet Brigadier-General Jourdan.

By command of Brig. Gen. C. A. Heckman:

W. H. ABEL,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General BATES,
Commanding Reserve Forces:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that after sending the regiment to General Jourdan, that you place the balance of your command in such position that they will be in readiness to move at a moment's notice to any point on the line that they may be needed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General BATES,
Commanding Reserve Forces:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding directs that you order the officer in charge of the detachment of your command now under marching orders to report in person to Brevet Major-General Terry without delay. The troops will not move until further orders.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General BATES,
Commanding Reserve Forces:

GENERAL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to inform you that the detachment of your command now under marching orders will not be needed to-night, but will be under arms at 5 a. m. to-morrow and subject to orders from Brevet Major-General Terry. I am also directed to inform you that troops from Bermuda Hundred

front have been ordered to report to take the place of those sent away. As soon as they report, which will be some time during the night, they will be assigned to your command.

I am, general, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General BATES,
Commanding Reserve Forces, Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you have your troops under arms from 5 a. m. to-morrow until after daylight.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM BIRNEY, *Commanding Second Division:*

GENERAL: You will have your command under arms and in readiness to move at a moment's notice, as a movement of the enemy is reported on our right.

By order of Brigadier-General Heckman:

W. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM BIRNEY, *Commanding Second Division:*

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you have your troops under arms from 5 a. m. to-morrow until after daylight. You will keep a sharp lookout and see that the officers in charge of the picket-line are watchful and vigilant, and report promptly to these headquarters any movement on the part of the enemy.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 10, 1864.

Maj. GEORGE B. COOK, *Chief of Artillery:*

MAJOR: You will order a battery of light artillery to move with the utmost dispatch across the lower pontoon bridge, Deep Bottom, and move out to Kingsland road and report to General Jourdan. Let this order be executed without any delay.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. E. Ferrero:

GEO. A. HICKS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 10, 1864.

Col. S. B. YEOMAN,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: You will order the Forty-third Regiment U. S. Colored Troops, under command of its senior officer, to march at once, on the receipt of this order, across the James River and report to General Heckman, commanding the Twenty-fifth Corps; headquarters where those of the Eighteenth Corps used to be. They will take their knapsacks, tents, and accouterments with them and leave all baggage to follow in the morning. You will have all this done with the least noise possible—no drums beat, no bugles sounded, and no fires. Every man of the regiment must go, and the utmost dispatch used in getting them off. Send word to these headquarters as soon as they have started.

By order of Bvt. Maj. Gen. E. Ferrero:

GEO. A. HICKS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 10, 1864—9.45 a. m.

Brevet Major-General TERRY,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Your order will be complied with. I have, however, been keeping my available men in reserve to move at any moment to any position of the line actually attacked requiring support. There has been no evidence of any force except on the left of my line. The pickets east of Johnson's farm have not been molested. I regard the movement only as a reconnaissance to ascertain whether our lines have been weakened.

Very respectfully, &c

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 10, 1864—3 p. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A lieutenant of the Forty-fourth Alabama and a private of the Sixth South Carolina have just been brought in as prisoners from in front of Colonel West's position. They represent that Field's division is there. Colonel West's skirmishers have been driven to his intrenchments. Lieutenant-Colonel Stratton, who is in front of Camp Holly, says he has driven the enemy's skirmishers back into the woods and out of the slashing, which would seem to indicate a disposition of retiring.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

P. S.—Colonel Evans' skirmishers at the last report were at the edge of Johnson's farm, in sight of the Darbytown road. The rebel line of skirmishers in his front are at Johnson's house, this side of the road.

A. V. K.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 10, 1864—5.30 p. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: A prisoner of the Eighth North Carolina, captured near Johnson's house, represents that Kershaw has taken post with his division in front of Fort Harrison. Hoke's division and Field's moved out on the Charles City and Darbytown roads to our right. They got orders last night about 1 o'clock to strike tents and move with three days' rations. I send the man to you at once. Colonel West reports that the enemy is moving on his right in the slashing toward Spring Hill.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Cavalry.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—11 a. m.*

General SHEPLEY,
Norfolk, Va.:

General Warren has been out five days on the Weldon road and nothing heard from him since the evening of the first day. Have you heard through scouts by the way of Suffolk anything from him? I wish you would send out and see if information can be got. It may be possible that General Warren will have to fall back by way of Suffolk, and if he does forage and provisions will have to be sent to him.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 10, 1864—1 p. m.*

Brigadier-General SHEPLEY,
Norfolk, Va.:

Please send a trusty scout by way of Suffolk, or such other route as you deem best, to try to communicate with General Warren, who is between Stony Creek and Hicksford. Have him notify General Warren for me that it is my desire that he should avoid battle as much as possible. If necessary he can come in to Suffolk, get rations and forage there, and return here by such route as may then be deemed best.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NORFOLK, VA., *December 10, 1864—8 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Armies:

Your dispatch is received. I have heard nothing of General Warren. A cavalry expedition will start at daylight in the morning for the information you desire. Please notify me when you hear of General Warren's return.

Respectfully,

G. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

NORFOLK, VA., *December 10, 1864—8 p. m.*
(Received 11th.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your second telegram of this date is received. I shall make immediate arrangements to communicate with General Warren.

GEO. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 11, 1864—4.30 p. m.*
(Received 9 p. m.)

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

There has been no news from Warren since the evening after he left. The Richmond papers, however, contain no news of any engagement with him beyond a rumored fight between Hampton's cavalry and some of his forces. A force of some 8,000 men was sent south yesterday under General Potter to secure his return. The latest news contained in Richmond papers of yesterday from Sherman's army says that on the 7th he was east of the Ogeechee, twenty-five miles from Savannah, marching on that place. On the 6th he had marched his army eighteen miles.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 11, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

The following dispatch from General Warren has just been received from General Meade:

SUSSEX COURT-HOUSE, *December 11, 1864—11 a. m.*

General GEORGE G. MEADE:

I have completely destroyed the railroad track from the Nottoway to Hicksford, and my command is all at the crossing of the Nottoway. Time did not allow me to go in between the Nottoway and Stony Creek, but that can be done at any time. I have met but trifling opposition or annoyance, but the marching and working night and day has been very fatiguing, and the weather very uncomfortable. The men, however, stood it all in good spirit, and we have made the best marching I have ever seen. The roads are now in a very bad condition. I propose to return to-morrow.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—10.15 a. m. (Sent 10.25 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I send a dispatch* just received from General Potter. The orderly bringing it says the cavalry were arriving when he left, so that I hope during the course of the day to receive positive intelligence of Warren.

* See Potter to Williams, 5.30 a. m., p. 967.

I can hardly think Warren was at Allen's Bridge last night, because his orders were positive to report his return and route in advance, and if he had started back I should have heard from him. If he has had much fighting, stragglers from his command may have found their way to Allen's Bridge. Considering the weather and the night, Potter and his command are entitled to great credit for the march they have made. The fact that Potter does not report any stragglers or fugitives at Freeman's Bridge, which is where Warren crossed and where their taking to the rear would be likely to be feared, looks favorable for Warren's success.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Two deserters have just come into our left. They report Gordon's and Pegram's divisions as holding the lines previously held by Heth and Wilcox. This gives as the force in my front, Johnson, Gordon, and Pegram, probably not over 15,000 men. The lines must, therefore, be comparatively weak, though as they are much shorter than my lines they are perhaps held stronger than Parke holds his. From all the reports of signal officers, I should judge the enemy were stronger on the left, as troops have been constantly seen moving that way, and as the enemy are expecting an attack on the South Side Railroad, Miles' movement would draw all their available reserves there. Hill undoubtedly went to Dinwiddie Court-house. Whether he moved the whole of his force beyond that point against Warren, or whether he only sent the cavalry and part of his infantry, is a point about which I am in doubt. His position at Dinwiddie is favorable either for operations against Warren, or to meet Warren in case he moved on the South Side road, or to attack in rear any force I should send in that direction. These considerations, together with the absence of any bad news from Warren, lead me to infer that Hill has perhaps not moved with his whole force against Warren, for, had there been heavy and severe fighting, I think Potter would either have heard something of it or would certainly have encountered some fugitives or stragglers from the field, as they would naturally return by the road they marched, which Potter is on. Under the supposition above indicated, in case we hear of Warren's returning in good order, I think there is a chance of carrying by a *coup de main* the center of Lee's weakened lines. For this purpose I would mass the reserves of the Sixth Corps, about 5,000, in the woods between Forts Howard and Alexander Hays, and, when Warren's column is within supporting distance, make an assault on the enemy's line between the Jerusalem plank road and the Weldon railroad, to be followed, if successful, by Warren's whole column. This operation is undoubtedly hazardous and will be dependent on the fact of whether or not we surprise the enemy. Should the first dash fail, the idea should be abandoned and the troops withdrawn; if successful in breaking through the lines and followed by Warren's column, we ought to be able to secure Petersburg. I make these suggestions for your consideration. If the Third Division of the Sixth Corps reaches in time it would be added to the assaulting column. The Second Corps would hold the left and look out for an attack from Hill, who should be expected in that direction and,

possibly, in our rear up the Weldon road, as, of course, on Warren's withdrawing, if he does not follow him, he will try to play the same game I am proposing, viz, to strike our weakened lines before Warren can get back. It will therefore be necessary that Warren should be close up to us before it will be prudent for us to attempt the offensive from the front.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—5.45 p. m. (Sent 6 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I transmit dispatch* just received from Major-General Warren. I understand from the officer who brings it that no opposition was met, except from cavalry, till they reached Hicksford, where artillery was found in position on the other side of the Meherrin. On the return the cavalry met some infantry near Jarratt's, but no great force. From all I can gather, Hill either did not leave Dinwiddie or else pushed for Hicksford, thinking Weldon was Warren's objective.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 11, 1864—7 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE:

Your cipher dispatch† just received. The plan you propose I think well of, and wish you would make all the preparations for carrying it into effect. It will be of the greatest importance to select the right officer for taking the advance.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 11, 1864.*
(Received 10 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Major-General Wright is here and expects the arrival of his last division to-night and early in the morning. At what point on the railroad will you have them debark?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—10.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Major-General Wright's third division should debark on the railroad at Parke's Station.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Grant to Halleck, 8.30 p. m., p. 951.
† See Meade to Grant, 1 p. m., p. 952.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—10.45 p. m. (Sent 11 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I forward a dispatch* which looks as if the enemy were returning to their lines.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 11, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. M. R. PATRICK,
Provost-Marshal-General, Armies Operating Against Richmond, City Point, Va.:

You will receive, take charge of, and distribute, as heretofore, all recruits forwarded from camps of rendezvous and that arrive at City Point for the armies operating against Richmond until further orders from these headquarters.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the command from these headquarters under Colonel Tippin, Sixty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, returned last evening to their camp. Colonel Tippin reported to Major-General Humphreys, commanding Second Corps, on the afternoon of the 9th instant, who directed him to report to General Miles, commanding First Division, Second Corps. Colonel Tippin there received orders to encamp his command on the right of the Fourth Brigade, occupying a wood skirting the Vaughan road, near the Gwyn house, a short distance from Hatcher's Run. He remained in that position till about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, when he received orders from General Miles to report with his command to army headquarters. No casualties occurred.

I remain, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

PH. SCHUYLER,
Captain, Fourteenth Infantry, in Charge of Office.

PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
City Point, Va., December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Scouts returned this a. m. and bring the following information from Richmond: Scattering men from Early's command were still coming into Richmond yesterday, but it was not supposed that anything more than Pegram's and Gordon's divisions had arrived. All

*See Humphreys to Williams, 7.15 p. m., p. 962.

that arrived in Richmond passed directly through to Petersburg. The enemy have no troops north of the Williamsburg road. There is no guard at Bottom's Bridge, and nothing on the road between that point and Richmond. All troops have been moved from their left and placed more directly in General Butler's front. There are rumors in Richmond that General Butler has nothing but negroes left under his command, and the general supposition was that this movement was with a view to an attack on his forces. It is rumored that they intend to turn his right flank or get in his rear. The following information is received from one who has every facility for knowing the condition of the enemy's railroad affairs: The Danville road is being used to its utmost capacity. Forty 8-wheeled cars come in daily loaded with supplies. They have twenty engines on the road, all in bad order. A great part of the time only four or five of them can be used. Occasionally they send twenty more cars in each day. The railroad cannot bring more than provisions enough to supply the wants of the army, and it is therefore impossible for them to get much of a surplus on hand. The track is in very bad condition, and they have had to take the rolling stock from the York River Railroad and lengthen the axles to fit the Danville road. They have also received some rolling stock from the East Tennessee road. The Central and Fredericksburg railroads bring about a fair supply of subsistence for the citizens in Petersburg and Richmond. Provisions, however, are very scarce in the towns. Flour is worth $400 per barrel. At the bridge on the Central railroad over the South Anna there is a guard of 600 reserves, with four pieces of artillery. On the Fredericksburg road at the bridge over the South Anna there is one company of forty men. There are about 120 mounted scouts north of the South Anna patrolling the country and guarding the railroad. One of our agents on the north side of the James reports that a great number of our men are deserting, and seem to have a regular run way through Charles City County. Night before last fifteen crossed the Long Bridge over the Chickahominy. About fifty have crossed there within the last week. They were piloted by a man of the name of Bob Mattox. There is also a mail line being run through that way. Most of those connected with it are known to this department, and measures will be taken to arrest the parties.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. McENTEE,
Captain and Provost-Marshal.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Deserters from Wallace's, Gracie's, and Ransom's brigades, of Johnson's division, came into the Ninth Army Corps lines about daylight this a. m. Johnson's division remains unchanged. One of informants reports that Johnson was expected to move to North Carolina last week and was ordered to be in readiness; that Kershaw's division came down from Richmond and encamped near Petersburg to the rear of Johnson, and was said to be ready to relieve Johnson's division when it moved out. On Thursday Kershaw's division moved to the right, but informant cannot say where to, though he thinks it

went with Hill's corps; admits that it may have gone into the trenches. Informant is positive that Mahone's division moved off to the southward, but thinks a part of Hill's corps is left behind. The reason he gives is that Johnson's division moved such a short distance to the right. Informants have very little information, having been confined to the trenches.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Sixth Louisiana Regiment, York's brigade, Gordon's division, came into the lines of the Second Army Corps on General Miles' front about 6 a. m. They state that yesterday Gordon's and Pegram's divisions moved to the right about one mile; no other movements noticed; think no force but A. P. Hill's corps and the cavalry is moving toward Weldon. Gordon and Pegram all that came from the Valley. Louisiana brigade (Hays' and Stafford's old brigades consolidated) numbers 750 men, including officers and all, and only 600 muskets.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Corporal Toohey, deserter from Sixth Louisiana, is a very intelligent Irishman, and well posted on the strength of Gordon's and Pegram's divisions. He states that Gordon's division is only 3,000 strong. This is about the strength as estimated shortly after Spotsylvania, viz: Terry's command, 900; Louisiana brigades, 600; Gordon's old brigade, 1,500; total in Gordon's division, 3,000. Informant states that Pegram's division is much larger, having been filled up with conscripts and convalescents. He estimates it at 4,000 strong. This would correspond with our last estimates of Pegram's command. These estimates correspond with the statement of deserter from Pegram, received day before yesterday, who stated that he saw the entire column at one view from the heights about Waynesborough, estimating it at from 6,000 to 7,000 strong. Informants have no information concerning Mahone's division, unless with Hill's corps.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

Will locate these divisions as soon as possible. All the information on hand at present is that Gordon is opposite General Miles' front, and posted as follows, from right to left: Gordon's old brigade, York's (Louisiana) brigade, Terry's brigade.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant, Signal Corps:

The fog is so thick that I cannot see the enemy's lines at any point.

MARCY.

Owing to fog, no observations can be made this a. m.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 11, 1864.

Colonel FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

Enemy's lines not visible.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The station near the Friend house reports:

At 2.15 p. m. three small columns of enemy's infantry were moving to our right on Richmond railroad, numbering in all about 1,500. They were straggling very much. Have not been able to see enemy's lines only occasionally all day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
December 11, 1864—5 p. m.

Col. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

Owing to fog I was not able to see the enemy's line till 2 p. m., when I noticed a few more tents in camp east of lead-works. There were three yesterday. At 4.30 the enemy relieved pickets on this front with about 200 men taken from camp west and near lead-works.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 11, 1864—5 p. m.

Captain PAINE,
Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. No change has been observed in enemy's camps. The following have been intercepted:

12.45 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One gun-boat off Point of Rocks and one off Strahan's lower landing. Steamer off Strahan's upper landing.

STEUART'S FRONT.

No change in enemy's camp observed this a. m.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

3.50 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet. Gun-boats in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 11, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The Church road station reports:

At 1 p. m. two trains of cars passed westward on South Side Railroad. Between the hours of 2.30 and 3.30 p. m. two small detachments of infantry, about 250 in each detachment, moved toward Petersburg on the Cox road. Too misty to see most of the day.

No changes from the other points excepting there was no firing between the pickets from the lines to our right of the lead-works.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—5.20 p. m.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant, &c.:

4.30 P. M.

No change in the enemy's camps; have not been able to see the enemy's road north of the Appomattox to-day. There is an apparent cessation of hostilities in front and to the right of the lead-works, both ours and the enemy's pickets appearing on the space between the lines carrying wood.

MARCY.

Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Avery's House, December 11, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel CLOUGH,
Eighteenth New Hampshire:

You will immediately report to these headquarters with your whole command ready to march to the vicinity of Fort Sedgwick. A staff officer will conduct you to the position to be occupied. You will report to Colonel Pleasants, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania, while on this duty.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

General Miles reports following casualties in his division during the 9th and 10th instant: Wounded, twenty enlisted men; missing, thirteen enlisted men. This does not include casualties in the cavalry.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Sent 10.40 a. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Can't you find out what troops are in your front either by authorizing some intercourse with the pickets or by a dash, getting some prisoners? Old telegraphs that Hoke is still north of the James, and all testimony goes to show that Hill's corps has been detached. This ought to leave the lines in our front to Johnson's division and the two reported as arriving from Early, viz, Gordon and Pegram. The prisoners taken by Miles yesterday told one of Babcock's men, put in among them disguised as a rebel, that there was no infantry near them yesterday, and that we could have gone without opposition to the South Side Railroad. They acknowledged having told Miles of infantry being there, but said it was to deceive him. Of course men who will lie once will do so again, but the fact of Hoke's not being here and Hill absent would seem to corroborate the last statement. I have heard from Potter at the Nottoway at 5 a. m. this morning. Had heard nothing positive about Warren, but no bad news, which is good news. Have any deserters been reported this morning?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—11.35 a. m. (Received 11.55 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Two deserters came in this morning, who are on their way to your headquarters, if not there by this time. They are from the Seventh Louisiana, Hays' old brigade, now in Gordon's division. From their statement I understand that Gordon's division occupies the front for-

merly held by Wilcox, and Pegram holds the front of Heth. I can have a dash made upon the pickets opposite Fort Sampson or Fort Gregg, or allow a little intercourse, if the statement of these deserters is not considered sufficient to determine who is opposite this front. The statement of some of Miles' prisoners was that they had not waited for the infantry, which they understood was to follow them, and did not know whether any was there. I did not attach much importance to Miles' report about the presence of infantry. We could probably have got to the South Side Railroad through Dinwiddie Court-House without much fighting before we got there, striking the railroad near Ford's road crossing—but afterward?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—11.40 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The following changes in the disposition of the troops of this command have been made since my last report: The troops on reconnaissance and in support of it returned to their former positions in the intrenchments last evening, and subsequently the reserves of the First Division, Sixth Corps, were moved to the right of the line held by that corps, in the vicinity of Fort Alexander Hays and to the right of that fort. Two men from the Sixty-ninth New York deserted to the enemy from the picket-line. Two deserters from the enemy came into our lines. The rear picket-line of the corps, in the vicinity of the Wyatt farm, was tried at two or three points by the enemy's cavalry last evening.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—2.15 p. m. (Sent 2.40 p. m.)

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

The information from the deserters sent in appears positive, and is, I presume, all we could get from other sources. I think it is pretty well settled Lee holds his lines in my front with only Johnson, Pegram, and Gordon, not over, in all, 15,000 men. If this is the case, he cannot very well assume the offensive as long as Hill is detached, but should Warren not be followed on his return by Hill, that gentleman might try his hand at an attack on our rear, coming up the Halifax or Vaughan road. I think, therefore, our attention should be directed to this point. Warren, I presume, will return by the Jerusalem plank, which will make that approach secure, but the roads to the westward would be open to Hill. I would, therefore, keep artillery and small garrisons in the works as far as the Gurley house, and caution the rear pickets to be on the *qui vive*. I can send my headquarters reserves to the Gurley house, about 150 strong.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding:

General Macy has just come in to report the result of an attempt to find out what troops are picketing on the left of the open space on the front about opposite Fort Gregg by exchange of a newspaper. It was well done by an intelligent young fellow, but failed completely. The paper was taken and some tobacco given in exchange, with the promise of a paper to-morrow, but the opposite picket would tell nothing as to his regiment. The prescribed garrisons and artillery are in all the rear forts, except Dushane and Davison, Gurley house. There is a battery of artillery and 200 men in Fort Dushane. Perhaps I had better add 200 men more. Shall I send any artillery to Fort Davison, Gurley house? There is some in reserve. The pickets on the rear and the commands in the rear works are cautioned to be on the alert.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—4.35 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

I have sent the household troops to Fort Davison, and I think it would be well to send a battery, a section of what you have in reserve. They can remain there during the emergency, and be withdrawn if wanted elsewhere. I don't think they need more to-night.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—5 p. m. (Received 5.10 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Two deserters have just come in to the First Division. They belong to the Sixth North Carolina, Lewis' brigade, Pegram's division. Got here Friday night. The fires of the troops whose places they took were burning, but the troops were gone. They are conscripts, Quakers; been in service but one month. They will be sent forward at once.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—6 p. m. (Received 6.10 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding:

General Macy has just sent me word that a deserter has come in, who states that he belongs to Rodes' division, which is on the enemy's right. The deserter is on the way here, and as soon as I see him I will send him up.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—6.15 p. m. (Received 6.20 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The deserter has reached my neadquarters. He belongs to the Sixth North Carolina, Lewis' brigade, Pegram's division. So far as he knows, Rodes' division is in the Valley. I will inquire of General Macy as to the mistake about the division.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—6.30 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Who does the deserter say now commands Rodes' division? Rodes was killed in the Valley at Winchester. If not Pegram or Gordon then it would indicate the arrival of a third division of Early's. Captain Paine has come in from Warren. Warren destroyed the road for twenty miles from the crossing of the Nottoway to Hicksford; encountered but little opposition from cavalry; saw no infantry, but found artillery in position and every evidence that the passage of the Meherrin would be disputed. Hill either staid at Dinwiddie or else went to Hicksford expecting Weldon was Warren's object.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 11, 1864—7.15 p. m. (Received 7.20 p. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

The general officer of the day for the Sixth Corps reports as follows:

My officers on the picket-line report to me that the enemy added about one-third to the strength of his line this afternoon. The detail relieved by the one now on duty stated that the rebels had day before yesterday apparently moved troops from my front to their right (our left), and there are indications to-day of their return.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—10.05 p. m. (Sent 10.35 p. m.)

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

Mott's division will rejoin you to-morrow, and the commanding general directs that you mass the division on the Vaughan road outside the line of works and hold it prepared to move at short notice.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICERS FIRST AND SECOND DIVISIONS:

GENERALS: The commanding general desires me to say that possibly on his return Hill, with his corps, may make some demonstration on our lines, and it will therefore be necessary to use the same degree of vigilance on the line of the rear works as in the front.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, SECOND CORPS,
December 11, 1864.

The division will move to-morrow at 7 a. m. The following will be the order of march: First, Second Brigade, General Pierce; second, Third Brigade, Bvt. Brig. Gen. R. McAllister; third, Battery B, Fourth U. S. Artillery; fourth, First Brigade, General De Trobriand; fifth, ambulances; sixth, division wagon train. General De Trobriand will furnish two regiments, one to march with the train and one in the rear of the train.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:
J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUSSEX COURT-HOUSE, *December 11, 1864—11 a. m.*

Colonel LOCKE:

The order I wish carried out at the crossing is for Ayres and Mott to halt in a good position on this side, Griffin on the other. Thomas to get the trains over as soon as he can get a chance at the bridges, but to give way for the cavalry to cross as soon as it arrives. Crawford will follow the cavalry.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that the Fifth Corps take up the position between the Jerusalem and Halifax roads it occupied before the movement down the Weldon railroad and be held in readiness to move at short notice, and that the troops of the Second Corps you have with you be ordered to report to Major-General Humphreys, commanding the corps.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR, No. 166. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *December 11, 1864—9.15 p. m.*

The following will be the order of march for to-morrow:

General Mott will march at 7 a. m., followed by General Griffin, General Ayres next, who will be followed by General Crawford. The wagons of each division will march with it. The divisions and batteries will return to their old camps.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 11, 1864—8.30 a. m.

[Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:]

GENERAL: I am at the cross-road leading to Coman's Well, closed up on General Mott. The enemy's cavalry are still following. They drove in the cavalry twice yesterday. I ambushed them the last time, killing 2, wounding 2, and taking 4 prisoners. Barringer's brigade is following me. I am not likely to be disturbed again.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 11, 1864—9.45 a. m.

[Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:]

GENERAL: A prisoner from the Tenth Virginia, Chambliss' brigade, taken this morning, reports that three brigades of cavalry, viz, Chambliss' old brigade, Barringer's, and Young's, are following my column. He says that his major and colonel both said that Hill's corps was following. He has seen no infantry since he left Belfield. I am at the cross-roads with General Gregg. Bragg, with my rear guard, now coming up.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. W. CRAWFORD,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Freeman's Bridge, December 11, 1864—9 a. m.
(Received 11 a. m.)

Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am at this point with a force of infantry (no artillery) and am expecting some small force of cavalry to join me. Left the lines after dark last night. I am ordered to General Warren's support. If required, I have some pontoons and can put down a bridge here if the troops are to cross at this point.

Very respectfully, &c.,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier and Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
Sussex Court-House, December 11, 1864—11 a. m.

General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division, Ninth Army Corps:

GENERAL: I have received word from Colonel Roebling that you are at the Nottoway River with your division. We shall not need your assistance further, and if your men are not too fatigued I wish you would march back at once, as you may be needed with your corps. Leave the pontoon bridge for me. General Gregg, with two brigades of cavalry, will follow you, if you move at once so as to leave the road clear for him.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

General POTTER:

Since writing, I have received your dispatch of 9 a. m. I presume you are too tired to go back till to-night. I want the pontoon bridge laid at once for convenience.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—3 p. m.

Colonel LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I have the honor to report that I have started with my troops to rejoin their commands before Petersburg.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier and Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—4.17 p. m.

Brigadier-General SEYMOUR,
Commanding Third Division, Sixth Corps:

GENERAL: Please enjoin especial vigilance on the picket-line covering Fort Dushane and that vicinity, and enjoin upon the garrison of Dushane the same vigilance as upon the garrisons in the front line of works.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General SEYMOUR,
Commanding Third Division, Sixth Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that the commanding officers of the First and Third Divisions, Sixth Corps, detail alternately a general officer of the day, whose duty will be with the two divisions

of the Sixth Corps. In addition thereto, a division officer of the day from each division will be detailed who will be the field officer of the day, and will remain on the line with the pickets of his division during his tour of duty. The details of general officer of the day from the 11th to the 12th will be made by General Seymour. The general officer of the day will report in person to the major-general commanding at 10 a. m. daily, when going on and coming off of duty.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual along our lines. Seven deserters have been brought in—five from Sixtieth Alabama, two from Twenty sixth South Carolina. They have no definite information about movements. All agree about troops moving to their right, and I judge from their stories that their lines in our front have been somewhat weakened. General Benham has reported with about 1,800 muskets.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864—9.30 p. m. (Sent 9.40 p. m.)

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

Please report by telegraph what disposition you have made of General Benham's troops. Are they massed or in the line? General Potter has returned to the vicinity of the Jones house, and orders will be sent to him from here to mass his troops there and hold them prepared to move at short notice.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—9.45 p. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

General Benham's troops are massed about the center of my line, near the site of the Shands house. None of them are in the line. I had ordered about 300 of his men to take position in or near Fort Sedgwick, but, hearing of the return of General Potter, the order was countermanded, and these men have been returned to their original position.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—6.30 p. m.

General H. W. BENHAM,
Commanding Reserves, &c.:

GENERAL: Will you please have a force, say from 300 to 350 men, sent over to the left to take position as a reserve to the line in the vicinity of Fort Sedgwick. They are to take the place of some of my troops that have gone with General Potter. Colonel Pleasants, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania, in command of Fort Sedgwick, knows the ground, and will post your troops. Will you please direct the commanding officer that in case of an emergency he is to receive orders from Colonel Pleasants without waiting for orders from your headquarters or mine. Captain Parke, my aide, will notify Colonel Pleasants, so that the command can be guided to its position without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 9TH A. C.,
December 11, 1864.

I. The troops, both officers and men, in the trenches will stand to arms, with equipments on, at 5 a. m., and remain in line till half an hour after daylight. The same trench guards heretofore established by General Orders, No. 5, from these headquarters, current series, will be continued and will remain constantly awake in the trenches. Two sentinels will be posted on the regimental fronts, and will keep constantly on the lookout for the enemy and prevent the destruction of the palisades, abatis, and revetments of the works.

II. The artillery garrison of Forts Haskell and Stedman and Batteries 10, 11, and 12 will stand to their pieces at 5 a. m., and will remain on the alert till half an hour after daylight.

III. The brigade officer of the day will inspect and report if this order is complied with.

IV. The brigade officer of the day will visit the picket-line on the relief of the old picket, see that the picket-line is properly posted, well connected throughout its extent, and to the right and left. He will inspect the line between 1 and 4 a. m., will make a written report of the condition of the lines and works when relieved, mentioning any lack of vigilance on the part of officers or men. One man on each picket-post will be constantly on the lookout, and all the men will have their equipments on at all times, and will stand to arms at the same time as the troops in the trenches.

By command of Bvt. Brig. Gen. N. B. McLaughlen:

T. W. CLARKE,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Freeman's Plantation, near Freeman's Bridge,
December 11, 1864—5.30 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that all of my forces, except the cavalry, were in bivouac at or near this point before 5 a. m. I have

had no positive word of General Warren. The rumors of the country place him at Allen's Bridge last evening, preparing to cross, some ten miles from this point. As soon as the cavalry come up I will send out detachments for information as soon as possible. The negroes report more firing in a southerly direction yesterday, but not heavy. I made a very good march to this point, indeed. No straggling.

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier and Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Freeman's Bridge, December 11, 1864—1.15 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I forward a dispatch from General Warren.* In accordance with orders from him, I shall move this afternoon to rejoin my corps.

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Jones' House, December 11, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the return of my command. The troops are ordered to take up their former positions, excepting those from the right. The march having been a long one, they will halt near the rear line and move their positions in the morning. Colonel Kerwin has reported to General Gregg, with his command, and Colonel Burnham, with his command, to General Warren, by his order. At 3 p. m., when my rear left Freeman's, the First Division of the Fifth Corps were in camp a mile or two this side of there. General Gregg, with his cavalry, was following me. The rest of General Warren's troops were crossing the Nottoway, over which were thrown two bridges.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier and Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 11, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. R. B. POTTER,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Your dispatch of 8.30 p. m. has been laid before the major-general commanding, who directs that instead of placing your troops in the position they occupied before your movement to the Nottoway you hold them massed in the vicinity of the Jones house and prepared to move at short notice.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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* See Warren to Potter, 11 a. m., p. 965.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—10.30 p. m.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The troops of my division that accompanied me on the movement are encamped in rear of the main line to the right and left of the Jerusalem plank road, where they were placed preparatory to the last move. Those of General Willcox's division are encamped for the night near the rear line. General Hartranft's Third Division troops were to encamp part near here and part near the rear line. They have not yet reported as being in camp. I do not know if your dispatch intends to refer to any troops but those of my own division, but if it does I would respectfully suggest that if it is practicable it would be much better to have these troops remain where they are till daylight, as they are very much used up, having had no sleep last night and been moving all night and all to-day, and to move them again to-night would probably greatly impair their efficiency.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brigadier and Brevet Major-General.

The orderly will await an answer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. G. GRIFFIN, *Comdg. Second Brigade, Second Division:*

GENERAL: Major-General Parke directs that you instruct all officers commanding in your front to be on the *qui vive*, and report promptly any movement they may observe on the part of the enemy.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT MONROE, *December 11, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Gale still continues; clouds just breaking away; all ready and waiting. One of Mulford's steamers just in. Charleston Mercury of December 6 says: "Sherman was reported yesterday at Station No. 6 on the Georgia road, about sixty miles from Savannah, making for that city." No other news; have telegraphed this to Secretary of War.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
City Point, Va., December 11, 1864.

Major-General BUTLER, *Fortress Monroe:*

Richmond papers of the 10th show that on the 7th Sherman was east of the Ogeechee, and within twenty-five miles of Savannah, having marched eighteen miles the day before. If you do not get off immediately you will lose the chance of surprise and weak garrison.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 11, 1864—9.20 a. m. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

General RAWLINS:

The following dispatch just received from General Terry:

General Foster reports to me that the enemy have withdrawn from the Signal Hill and Camp Holly front. Colonel West, of the cavalry, has re-established his picket-line.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 168. HDQRS. DEPT. OF VA. AND N. C., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, Va., December 11, 1864.*

Bvt. Brig. Gen. Guy V. Henry, colonel Fortieth Massachusetts Volunteers, is hereby assigned to duty according to his brevet rank, subject to the approval of the President, to command the Third Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps.

By command of Major-General Butler:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 393. HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, December 11, 1864.*

1. Brig. Gen. Henry G. Thomas, U. S. Volunteers, is hereby ordered to report to Brig. Gen. C. A. Heckman, commanding Twenty-fifth Army Corps, for assignment to duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Ord:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 11, 1864—10 a. m.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Your note has been received. My picket-line has been replaced and there is no evidence of any enemy on this side of the Darbytown road. I believe the enemy to have returned to their intrenchments. If desired, I will send out on the Charles City road, although it is unimportant whether they are there or in their intrenchments. There is no enemy within our lines as held heretofore. I desire permission to order the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry back to their quarters.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY BRIGADE,
Near Fort Holly, December 11, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Maj. THEO. H. SCHENCK,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Kautz's Division:

SIR: I made a reconnaissance this morning to the junction of the Long Bridge and Charles City roads and thence half a mile on the latter road toward Richmond without seeing anything of the enemy. A portion of their cavalry retired by this route last night, but their main force of cavalry and infantry took the more direct route to their lines. They retired about 9 o'clock last night, since when they have not been down on the roads I reconnoitered. I have my pickets on the same line as yesterday morning, a little strengthened in numbers. My main force is in the edge of the wood about a quarter of a mile in the rear of Fort Holly. I have learned that the force that drove in our pickets yesterday was Colonel Logan's regiment of cavalry. The infantry that came in on our left flank was composed in part of the Twenty-fourth Virginia, the other regiments not ascertained. Their force consisted of two, or perhaps three, regiments. I did not have time to question the wounded prisoners sent in in the infantry ambulance.

My casualties are about fifteen to eighteen, three killed; will send in list soon.

There seems, so far as I can judge, no reason for the brigade remaining longer in support of the picket-line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANKLIN A. STRATTON,
Lieut. Col. Eleventh Pennsylvania, Commanding Brigade.

NORFOLK, VA., *December 11, 1864—4.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have sent a scout toward Hicksford, also three companies of cavalry in the same direction, also a like force of cavalry and two pieces of artillery to South Quay to hold the crossing of the Blackwater and move in the direction of Weldon. Rations and forage will be ready at a moment's notice to be at Suffolk if wanted.

GEO. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 11, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

General SHEPLEY,
Norfolk, Va.:

Warren is at the Nottoway. Will return to-morrow.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—10.40 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Deserters report Kershaw's division south of the Appomattox. Have you any information of its being withdrawn from Butler's front?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 12, 1864.*
(Received 10.50 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The last information placed Kershaw's division in front of Fort Harrison. I will inquire of General Ord if it has gone.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—12 m. (Sent 12.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

In the absence of any positive intelligence of Hill's position, after a careful examination of the ground by engineers and reliable officers, the intelligence of the signal officers and picket officers of the return of the enemy to his works, the condition of the troops now returning from the expedition to Hicksford, on which they have, from the weather, suffered very much, from all these considerations I am constrained to advise giving up my suggestion of yesterday to attack the enemy's line, on the ground that I have no reason to believe it will be successful, and am not disposed to engage in such an operation except under the most favorable circumstances. I will, however, have everything in readiness awaiting your decision.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 12, 1864.* (Received 1 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Your dispatch just received. I would not advise the attack suggested by you unless with a good prospect of it succeeding. But if you are prepared for it, act on your best judgment when Warren gets back and the time comes for making the attack.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 12, 1864.*
(Received 4.05 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The only information General Ord has of movement of troops from his front is from a deserter off picket. He heard a report that some troops had moved toward the river yesterday; understood it was Kershaw's division.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, *December 12, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

Maj. Gen. P. H. SHERIDAN,
Kernstown, Va.:

I think there is no doubt but all of Gordon's and Pegram's divisions are here. The inhabitants of Richmond are supplied exclusively over the roads north of the James River. If it is possible to destroy the

Virginia Central road it will go far toward starving out the garrison of Richmond. The Weldon road has been largely used until now, notwithstanding it has been cut to Stony Creek. It is now gone to Hicksford, and I think can be of no further use. If the enemy are known to have retired to Staunton, you will either be able to make a dash on the communications north of the James or spare a part of your force. Let me know your views as to the best course to make a dash on the Central road and canal or to detach from your command.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Six deserters, all from the Sixth North Carolina, Lewis' brigade (Hoke's old), Pegram's division, came into the lines of the Second Army Corps yesterday evening, and were forwarded last night. They came in from the enemy's picket-line on General Miles' front. All of them are conscripts, and have only been two weeks in service. They can give little or no information of organization or strength of their commands. Pegram's division moved some four miles to the right last Saturday and returned to camp again in the evening. Cannot tell where they went to, though from description it must be Hatcher's Run; are occupying winter quarters vacated by Heth's division, think about four miles from Petersburg. They are totally unacquainted with the country, and cannot locate their commands with any exactness.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Two men who state they belong to the First Michigan Infantry and were captured by the enemy yesterday evening have made their escape, and tell the following story: That they were captured at McDonald's plantation, two miles this side of the Nottoway and half a mile off the Jerusalem plank road, yesterday evening about dark by a party of scouts belonging to the Fifth South Carolina Cavalry; that the Fifth Army Corps had not passed at the time of their capture, but was passing; they were taken about a mile back into the woods, where they remained until the corps had passed; heard firing about sundown, at which the scouts remarked "that A. P. Hill's corps was close in the rear of the Fifth Corps, following them up;" that they made their escape about 7 p. m. and came across the country to our lines, meeting nothing but a few scouts and guerrillas. Could learn nothing further concerning the enemy. Informants appear to be truthful, and have been sent to their command for identification.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: A deserter from Twelfth Virginia Infantry, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division, came into the lines of the Third Division, Sixth Army Corps, this a. m.; states that when Mahone's division moved south with Hill's corps the pickets were not called in, and have been out ever since. Has no information of the position of Early's troops other than Pegram's division is occupying Heth's old position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 12, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The several stations report no movements on the part of the enemy seen to-day, excepting a small regiment moved to our right on the Richmond railroad, and stragglers were seen moving toward Petersburg this forenoon on the Richmond pike. Several trains passed in and out on the South Side Railroad.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 336. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864.

* * * * * * *

Maj. Gen. H. G. Wright, commanding Sixth Corps, having reported to the major-general commanding, is assigned to the charge of that portion of the line now held by the First and Third Divisions, Sixth Corps, heretofore temporarily placed under the orders of Major-General Humphreys, commanding Second Corps.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864—9.40 a. m. (Received 9.50 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No change in the disposition of the troops of my command and nothing of interest to mention since last report.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864—10.10 a. m. (Received 10.40 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

At what time may I expect Mott's division? Will the cavalry resume their picket-line commencing on the Weldon railroad? I ask in reference to modification to the present picket-line on and near the Weldon railroad and extending west of it.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—11.15 a. m. (Sent 11.30 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

Colonel Locke states that Mott's division should report to you between 2 and 3 p. m. to-day. For the present the cavalry will not resume their picket-line commencing on the Weldon railroad.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 12, 1864—3.20 p. m. (Received 3.25 p. m.)

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Will you let me know where the Fifth Corps is to go? I ask so as to arrange my picket-line east of the Weldon railroad.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—3.30 p. m. (Sent 4.06 p. m.)

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

I am instructed by the commanding general to say that it will not be necessary for you to picket east of the Weldon railroad. The position occupied by the Fifth Corps is about a mile in rear of these headquarters, between the Jerusalem and Halifax roads. The Fifth Corps will picket on your left.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864—8.30 p. m. (Received 8.40 p. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I suppose I may send the stragglers of the Fifth Corps to that corps?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864. (Sent 9.40 p. m.)

General A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

The commanding general says the Fifth Corps stragglers can be returned to that corps. He thinks they should be sent to General Warren under guard.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—9.30 p. m. (Sent 9.50 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

Instead of posting Mott's division on the Vaughan road, as directed in my dispatch of last evening, the commanding general desires that this division on reporting to you take up a position outside of the line of works near and west of the Halifax road.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH CORPS,
December 12, 1864—4 p. m.

Major-General HUMPHREYS:

Where does your rear picket-line strike the Halifax road?

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864—4.16 p. m.

Major-General WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

My rear picket-line strikes the Halifax road where the Church road crosses it—that is the road running past Colonel Wyatt's.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864.

It is expected that the general officer of the day, on commencing his tour of duty, will meet at the headquarters of the commanding general at 10 a. m. and confer with the general officer of the day coming off duty, receiving from that officer all information and standing orders that will facilitate him in the performance of his duties, ascertaining at what points the pickets of the command connect on the right and left with other commands, and any other information that may be of use to him. After conferring together, the old and new general officers of the

day will report to the major-general commanding the corps, the former to make a verbal and present a written report of his tour of duty, and the latter to receive such especial orders as may be necessary.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864.

The commanding officer of the Second Division is relieved from the charge of the pickets of the Third Division, and the commanding officer of the latter division will resume the charge of them and his former picket-line. The stragglers of the Third Division now with the Second Division will be sent to the former division.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864.

Major-General MOTT, *Commanding Third Division:*

GENERAL: On reporting to this command, your division will take up a position outside of and at least 1,000 yards beyond the rear line of intrenchments near and west of the Halifax road. Lieutenant-Colonel Willian, acting assistant inspector-general of the corps, will designate the ground. You will hold your division ready to move at very brief notice, with four days' bread, sugar, and coffee, and three days' salt and one day's salt meat on the person, three days' beef on hoof, two days' bread and small rations in the supply train, with two days' beef on hoof with the train; sixty rounds infantry ammunition on the person, forty rounds in wagons, one-half of the ambulances, all the stretchers, one medicine and one hospital wagon to each brigade; the light headquarters wagons and pack-mules, and four days' forage, one wagon for each brigade for commissary supplies to officers and forage for officers' horses of the brigades. All other teams will be held ready to move within the lines at City Point.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864—8.30 p. m.

General WHEATON, *Jones House:*

GENERAL: The commanding general has been notified by the major-general commanding the army that Major-General Wright has reported at army headquarters, and is assigned to the charge of that portion of the line now held by the First and Third Divisions of the Sixth Corps. Accordingly, your division will report to him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to General Seymour.)

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864—12.35 p. m.

Brigadier-General SEYMOUR,
Commanding Third Division, Sixth Army Corps:

I desire to know whether you have a picket-line connecting with the Second Corps left on the Weldon railroad, running up the railroad toward Fort Dushane, and then covering that work and extending to the left of the Weldon railroad toward Gurley's house? The general officer of the day for the Sixth Corps for yesterday states your division officer reported to him there was no picket-line on the rear from your division.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—11 a. m.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-Colonel Biddle, aide-de-camp, left here this morning with instructions to you requiring that the Fifth Corps take up the position between the Jerusalem and Halifax roads it occupied just before the movement from the Weldon railroad, and that Mott's division, Second Corps, report to Major-General Humphreys, commanding Second Corps. Colonel Locke reports in coming up he did not meet Colonel Biddle. The latter probably took the rear by Lee's Mill. The commanding general directs that you cause the supplies of the Fifth Corps to be replenished with as little delay as practicable, and that the corps be held in readiness to move at short notice.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864—4 p. m.

General MEADE:

Can we not defer establishing any distant picket-line in the rear till to-morrow. Everybody in my command is quite tired out, and I have no line reconnoitered, nor can give any orders for establishing it till I do. It will give a great deal of riding to the officers establishing it, and they will be unfitted for sudden movements, if called for. There will be a picket-line a short distance in advance of my camp, anyhow, but not connecting with others.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—4.40 p. m.

Major-General WARREN:

The picket-line you have now near your camps will answer for to-day, and until more permanent arrangements are made.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864.

General GRIFFIN:

You will establish your picket-lines to-night sufficiently for your own protection. More definite arrangements as to the establishment of the picket-line will be made to-morrow.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Ayres and Crawford.)

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864—2 p. m.

General GRIFFIN:

You must at once move General Chamberlain's brigade to the east side of the ravine, leaving all ground to the west of it free to General Ayres' division.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ENGINEER BRIGADE,
Avery's House, near Petersburg, December 12, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel VAN BUREN,
Aide-de-Camp, &c., Headquarters Ninth Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your order to return with my command to City Point. I would respectfully suggest, as the train of cars may be delayed, if I deem it expedient, I be authorized to march my troops to City Point. If I receive no answer to this by a return messenger I shall consider the permission granted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864—12.30 p. m.

General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineer Brigade and Defenses of City Point:

GENERAL: Below please find copy of telegram from headquarters Army of the Potomac under which I forwarded you the order to move to City Point. The ending of the dispatch is not obligatory in reference to moving by rail.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—11.10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general directs that you order General Benham to return with his command to City Point, and to occupy with his troops the positions in the line of defenses of that place they held before the movement to Meade's Station. General

Benham's troops can take on their return the cars that are to-day bringing up the Second Division, Sixth Corps. The troops should be at Meade's Station ready for the cars.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Respectfully, yours,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—9 a. m. (Sent 9.15 a. m.)

Maj. Gen. R. B. POTTER,
Commanding, &c., Jones' House:

I am directed by the commanding general to say that the disposition made by you last evening of the troops that accompanied you to the Nottoway sufficiently meets his wishes with regard to concentrating them in the vicinity of the Jones house to render unnecessary any change this morning in their positions. He desires that the supplies of the troops so far as required should be replenished as soon as practicable and that they be held in readiness to move at short notice. Please acknowledge.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I returned with two brigades of my command at 1 o'clock this a. m. The remaining brigade is on picket at Proctor's and will return with General Warren to-day.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. MCM. GREGG,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—10 a. m.

General D. MCM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that you replenish your supplies of forage, subsistence, and ammunition with as little delay as practicable, and for the present hold your entire command in readiness to move at short notice. Your pickets will be withdrawn until further orders. The commanding general desires that you will report to him in person as soon as your command is in readiness to move.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864—11 a. m.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry Division:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the commanding general to say that in directing you to draw in your pickets he did not design that the party on the telegraph road above Jordan's Point should be withdrawn. That detachment must remain out for the present.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 12, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: When Colonel Kerwin, commanding the cavalry (left here by you during the recent movement down the Weldon railroad) was ordered to move with all his available force on the evening of the 10th instant, in connection with an infantry column sent to communicate with Major-General Warren, it was found that there was no ammunition for two of his regiments armed with Burnside carbines, and his movement was delayed for several hours to await the arrival of ammunition, specially ordered from the depot at City Point, although it was at the time deemed of the highest importance that he should start as soon as possible after receiving his instructions. The commanding general therefore directs that you cause an examination to be made to ascertain why the amount of ammunition required to be kept in reserve was not on hand for the two regiments, and that you report what officer is to be held responsible for the failure to provide the same.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 12, 1864—11 a. m.*

Major-General ORD:

General Meade says Kershaw's division is reported south of the Appomattox. Have you heard of its withdrawal from your front?

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 12, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

The Richmond Examiner of to-day says:

Our last advices from Georgia represent that Sherman was advancing toward Savannah by three parallel roads. He must be in the vicinity of the city by this time. * * * Generals Beauregard, Hardee, Smith, and, we believe, Taylor, are in command of our forces.

This is all of interest in to-day's papers. Two deserters in to-day, one of whom thinks some troops moved toward the river yesterday. This not reliable, as the man was on picket. He says the rumor was that it was Kershaw's division.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers.

CITY POINT, *December 12, 1864—3.45 p. m.*

Major-General ORD:

Please notify the commander of the French vessel at Aiken's Landing that they must return to the mouth of the James River by Friday next. Up to that time all foreign subjects presenting themselves on our lines will be passed through to his vessel, where they will be required to remain until out of the river.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
Bermuda Hundred, December 12, 1864. (Received 6 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Butler left orders for an expedition to the country between the Piankatank and Potomac, to burn and break up sundry places. The officer going proposes to take the companies of cavalry at Harrison's Landing and one from Williamsburg, with a force of infantry. As part of this cavalry was posted by your order, I ask if it can be now removed.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 12, 1864.*

Major-General ORD,
Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

There is no objection to taking the cavalry from Harrison's Landing and Williamsburg for the expedition ordered by General Butler.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 12, 1864—11.10 p. m.

General GRANT,
City Point:

General Ferrero telegraphs * movements within the enemy's lines on his front, which he is inclined to think indicate an attack. I think it more probable the enemy are detaching a portion of his forces.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General, Commanding.

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* See Ferrero to Ord, 11 p. m., p. 984.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 7. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 24TH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., December 12, 1864.*

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3. The Eighty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers is assigned to duty as provost-guard at these headquarters, and will report to Lieut. George F. McCabe, Seventh New Hampshire Volunteers, provost-marshal, without delay, bringing with them their camp and garrison equipage, &c. All commissioned officers and enlisted men of this regiment now on detached service within the division are relieved and will report with the regiment unless specially exempted from these headquarters.

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By order of Brig. Gen. R. S. Foster:

ADRIAN TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. FIRST DIVISION, TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 12, 1864.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. JOURDAN, *Commanding Fourth Brigade:*

GENERAL: In pursuance of instructions from corps headquarters I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to request that you will withdraw the detachment of the Fifty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers from the ravine redoubt and add it to the garrison of the work on Signal Hill; also that you will increase the garrison of the work at Camp Holly to about 500 men, by adding to the Eighth Maine Volunteers and the Eighty-ninth New York Volunteers. These garrisons must keep five days' rations constantly on hand in the redoubts and 150 rounds of small-arm ammunition. As the abatis around these works need to be strengthened and pinned down, please direct the commanding officer of each to furnish such details as the engineer officer in charge of the works of this division may require for this purpose. I am also directed to request that you will strictly prohibit the removal of any of the fallen timber or the slashing in front of these works or in front of the line of works on the Kingsland road, placing a guard to enforce this order if you find it to be violated.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ADRIAN TERRY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864.

Maj. THEODORE READ, *A. A. G., Twenty-fourth Army Corps:*

I have the honor to report that the troops of this division, on hearing musketry firing on the right on the morning of the 10th instant, at once were placed in line. Shortly after Brevet Brigadier-General Henry, with the Third Brigade of this division, was ordered to report to Brigadier-General Foster, commanding First Division, Twenty-fourth Army Corps. There was no skirmishing on the front occupied by my command during the day, neither was General Henry's brigade engaged, and I have no casualties to report.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. DEVENS,
Brigadier-General.

HDQRS. THIRD DIVISION, TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864.

Maj. THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Twenty-fourth Army Corps:

MAJOR: In reply to a communication from the brevet major-general commanding the corps, I have the honor to inform you that the work of strengthening the abatis in the front occupied by my division has already been commenced. There has been a little delay on account of the inability of Captain Bessey, the officer who has been placed in charge of the work, to procure the necessary tools. The attention of Colonel Granger will be called to the irregularity that was mentioned and means be taken to prevent its recurrence.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
CHAS. DEVENS,
Brigadier-General.

HATCHER'S, *December 12, 1864—11 p. m.*

Major-General ORD:

I have just received word from my picket-line that there has been considerable movement of troops on my front in the enemy's line this evening, indicating an attack. I shall keep a portion of my troops under arms all night to prevent any surprise. You are aware that my infantry force is very small in case of an attack.

E. FERRERO,
Brevet Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 442. WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, December 12, 1864.*

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23. Brig. Gen. George J. Stannard, U. S. Volunteers, will report in person without delay to the Governor of the State of Vermont for such duties as may be assigned him during his convalescence and until further orders.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 13, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: In compliance with your instructions, I submit the following list of articles deemed contraband and prohibited by the War Department from sale or trade in insurrectionary districts of the United States: All drugs, medicines, surgical instruments, chemical apparatus, cooking utensils, and hospital stores; cannon of all kinds; gun carriages of all kinds; caissons, ammunition-carts, battery wagons, and forges; all implements and equipments used in working guns; all projectiles for smooth-bore or rifled cannon; all muskets, rifles, carbines, pistols, sabers, swords, lances, and other small-arms and appendages for the

same; all accouterments for artillery, cavalry, and infantry; all horse equipments and harness for cavalry and artillery; all ammunition, fixed or partially made up; all cartridge-bags, filled or unfilled; cartridges for all kinds of small-arms; fuses, lead, and lead bullets; rockets and all articles of pyrotechny; percussion caps and primers; powder of all kinds; all machines for hoisting or working artillery; all cloth, paper, rope, thread, wax, and other working material for making ammunition for cannon or small-arms; all copper, iron, steel, and articles of iron-mongery required for military purposes; all leather and materials for manufacturing accouterments and equipments; all timber and lumber for gun-carriages and platforms; all paints, dyes, oils, and lacquer; veterinary implements and horse medicines for artillery and cavalry; sulphur, niter, charcoal, and chemicals, and all articles in any way used in the manufacture of powder, fire-works, incendiary composition, or laboratory stores; together with all smiths', carpenters', and saddlers' tools; models and gauges of all description used in the fabrication or repair of any of the foregoing articles and material; coal of all kinds; forage, grain, provisions; stationery, barracks and hospital furniture; means of transportation, wagons, carts, ambulances, horses, mules, oxen, locomotive engines, railroad stock and machinery; paints, oils, glass, and materials for building barracks and hospitals; mechanics' tools, axes, spades, shovels, picks, crowbars, and all intrenching and mining tools; iron and steel portable saw-mills, mills for grinding corn, and steam engines; men's clothing of all kinds, military equipments, camp and garrison equipage, cotton, wool, and mixed fabrics; all manufactured parts of any of the above, and all materials, tools, and machinery for their manufacture; boats, oars, anchors, cables, telegraph wire; maps; military, medical, surgical, and chemical books; wrapping and drawing paper; apparatus and materials for photographing; lithographic stones; paper and printing presses, and materials, furniture, and bedding of all kinds.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 13, 1864.*
(Received 5.33 p. m.)

General MEADE:

Will you please give me a summary of Warren's operations on the expedition from which he has just returned.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 13, 1864—6 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I have received no report from General Warren other than the dispatch already transmitted to you.* I have called on him for one more in detail.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See p. 951.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 13, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER:

9.15 A. M.

Small parties of the enemy are working to the right and left of Crater. No change in the camps.

MARCY.

9 A. M.

All quiet this a. m. No change observed.

HOLMAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant, &c.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 13, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant, Signal Corps:

4.30 P. M.

All quiet.

JORDAN.

4.15 P. M.

At 12.45 p. m. a train of eleven wagons passed to the left on Pocahontas road. A small party of the enemy are working on the outer line of works to the right of Crater. No change in enemy's camps this p. m.

MARCY.

Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 13, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The several stations send this information: That at 2 p. m. infantry came from the left on the Boydton plank road in scattered detachments and located themselves as follows—two regiments broke ranks in vicinity of lead-works, two by the houses about one-third of a mile southwest of the lead-works, four in the camps south and west of the large fort west of the Weldon railroad. At 4 p. m. about 1,200 came from the west on the B[oydton] p[lank] road and pitched camp east of lead-works. At 4.30 p. m. about 800 came from the west upon the same road and moved in direction of Petersburg. The enemy's camps and lines in the vicinity of the Weldon railroad, and to some distance east of the lead-works, have assumed about the same appearance they had before the late move.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 337. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *December 13, 1864.*

1. Getty's division, Sixth Corps, will relieve Gibbon's division, Second Corps, in the position now held by the latter in the line of the army, and Gibbon's division, on being relieved, will be encamped on the Vaughan road, outside the line of intrenchments.

* * * * * * *

6. The cavalry division serving with this army will take up a position between the Jerusalem plank road and the James River. The headquarters of the division will be established at or in the vicinity of Prince George Court-House.

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8. The Thirteenth Ohio Regiment, dismounted cavalry, now serving with the Ninth Army Corps, is transferred to the Second Cavalry Division, and will proceed with as little delay as practicable to the dismounted cavalry camp near City Point for the purpose of being remounted. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary transportation. The regimental commander will report to Brevet Major-General Gregg for further instructions.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 13, 1864—10.15 a. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Asst. Adjt. Gen., Army of the Potomac:*

The Third Division of the Second Corps returned yesterday p. m., and was massed on the Halifax road in the vicinity of the Lewis and Perkins houses. No other changes in the positions of the troops of my command during the last twenty-four hours. The report of the field officer of the day of the First Division, December 11 and 12, states that the officer commanding pickets Third Brigade reported that the enemy sent up a balloon the evening of the 11th, and that they appeared to be moving troops and at work on the intrenchments. Further, the field officer of the day for yesterday reported that some troops of the enemy had been moved out of their intrenchments during recent operations, and were on Sunday on the road leading west from Fort Cummings; were not there yesterday. I attach but little credence to any of these statements.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 317. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *Peebles' House, before Petersburg, Va., December 13, 1864.*

1. The stragglers from the Fifth Army Corps, now with the First Division, Second Army Corps, will be sent under guard by the commanding officer of that division to Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Army Corps.

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By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 13, 1864.

The following rearrangement of the picket-line of this corps will go into effect to-morrow morning, the 14th instant: The First Division will extend its picket-line to the left as far as the road running from Fort Cummings, past Westmoreland's. The Second Division will picket from that road to the Vaughan road. The Third Division will picket from the Vaughan road to the Halifax road or Weldon railroad, where it will connect with the picket-line of the Fifth Corps.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 13, 1864.

On being relieved by Getty's division, Sixth Corps, Major-General Gibbon will encamp his division on the Vaughan road, not less than 1,000 yards beyond the rear line of intrenchments in the vicinity of the Davis house. General Gibbon will send a garrison to Fort Emery to relieve that of General Miles' division, 150 men.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 598. } *December 13, 1864.*

1. Lieut. Col. H. M. Karples, commanding Fifty-second New York Volunteers, at Fort Emery, upon being relieved by troops from the Second Division, will at once report with his command to Colonel MacDougall, commanding Third Brigade.

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By command of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 13, 1864—10 p. m.

Major-General GIBBON,
Second Division, Second Army Corps:

An order will be sent to you immediately to report to the lieutenant-general commanding, for assignment to the Twenty-fourth Army Corps. Please make your arrangements to report as soon as possible, and receive my hearty congratulations.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 64. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *December 13, 1864.*

I. Each division will furnish a detail of 500 men for picket duty, with the proper complement of officers and non-commissioned officers.

II. General Ayres will picket from a point half way between the Halifax road and the Jerusalem plank road. Colonel Roebling, aide-de-camp, will show the location of General Ayres' lines; Captain Cope, aide-de-camp, that of General Griffin's.

III. General Crawford, with his division, will picket east of the Jerusalem plank road, connecting with the cavalry pickets when established. Colonel Osborn, division inspector, will superintend the establishment of this line.

IV. It is probable that our present camp will not be long occupied.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 65. HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS, *December 13, 1864.*

The command having returned from its late expedition after accomplishing successfully its mission—the destruction of the Weldon railroad as far as Hicksford, making forced marches during six days and nights in the most inclement weather—the major-general commanding considers it his duty to express to his division commanders—Brevet Major-General Gregg, commanding Second Cavalry Division; Brevet Major-Generals Griffin, Ayres, and Crawford, of the Fifth Corps, and Brevet Major-General Mott, commanding Third Division, Second Corps—his high appreciation and commendation of their performance of the instructions issued to them by him. He desires that they will convey this approval to their commands, with such especial praise as they may deem due to individuals in their divisions.

The major-general commanding expresses his thanks to Brevet Brigadier-General Wainwright, chief of artillery, for his efficient management of the artillery of the command; to Lieut. Col. A. L. Thomas, chief quartermaster, for the thorough manner in which he conducted the trains, and to Brevet Major Van Brocklin, Fiftieth New York Engineers, for his efficiency and promptness in the management of the pontoon train.

By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Brevet Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 13, 1864—10.35 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual has transpired along our lines during the past twenty-four hours. No deserters have been reported during the last two nights.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 13, 1864—4.15 p. m. (Sent 4.25 p. m.)

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

I am instructed by the commanding general to say that the troops composing General Potter's command can now be returned to the positions they occupied before the recent movement to the Nottoway. Please give the necessary instructions for this purpose.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 13, 1864.

Major-General POTTER,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding the army directs that the troops joining your command during the recent movement to the Nottoway can now be returned to their original position. Will you please notify General Hartranft, and direct Colonel Robinson to report to General Willcox with his command.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. HARTRANFT,
Commanding Provisional Brigade:

GENERAL: Orders have been received for the troops taking part in the late movement to be returned to their original positions. Your command is hereby relieved and you will report directly to the major-general commanding the corps, as before the movement.

By command of Brevet Major-General Potter:

SAML. WRIGHT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 13, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: If there is no objection I would wish to delay moving my division until day after to-morrow. To-morrow I could take my brigade commanders with me and examine the country about Prince George Court-House and select camps for the brigade with reference to water and the soil. If not required to picket beyond the Norfolk railroad, I would establish the three brigades in the vicinity of Prince George Court-House, so that one well constructed corduroy road to Meade's Station could be used for the entire command. If, however, I should be required to picket to the Jerusalem plank road, a better dis-

position would be to place a brigade west of the Court-House and on the Norfolk railroad. This last would require the construction of another corduroy road. A telegraph line should pass from your headquarters, via the Williams and Westbrook houses, to McCann's Station, and thence following the direct road to Prince George Court-House.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding Second Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 13, 1864—5.05 p. m.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. D. McM. GREGG,
Commanding Cavalry:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding to say that at present it will not be necessary for you to move your own headquarters or the camps of your troops, provided they do not interfere with the infantry camps, farther than may be necessary for you to picket from the Jerusalem plank road to the James River. On your right you will connect with the infantry pickets on the Jerusalem road, and the commanding general desires that you will frequently send patrols to front of your picket-line and to Reams' Station, so as to give timely notice of any movements of the enemy from that quarter. The commanding general desires that you establish your picket-line between the Jerusalem road and the James River to-morrow. It is probable the infantry picket-line will terminate in the vicinity of Gary's Church. The commanding general desires that you will confer with Major-General Warren, commanding Fifth Corps, as to the point of connection. As soon as your picket-line is established the commanding general wishes you to report its location.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 13, 1864.

The picket-line of this division will be established to-morrow morning as follows: The First Brigade will picket from the plank road, near Gary's Church, across by Davenport Church to the Norfolk railroad, establishing reserves on the Lee's Mill road, near Brown's, on the road west of the Norfolk railroad, and in rear of Davenport Church. Three hundred men will be employed in performing this duty. The right of the line will connect with the picket-line of the Fifth Army Corps on the plank road. The Second Brigade will picket from the Norfolk railroad, connecting with the First Brigade to a point directly east of Prince George Court-House on the road leading north from Sinai Church, establishing strong reserves on the Quaker road at Sinai Church and on the left of the line. Three hundred men will be required to perform this duty. The Third Brigade will connect with the Second and continue the line through by Green's to the James River, establishing strong reserves on the stage and telegraph roads. Three hundred men will be employed in performing this duty.

By command of Brevet Major-General Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 13, 1864.*

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Army of the James:

I shall start soon to visit you. Please send two ambulances to Aiken's. The ladies will be with me.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

FORT MONROE, VA., *December 13, 1864—1.30 p. m.*
(Received 1.50 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

I shall leave here for Beaufort in an hour.

D. D. PORTER,
Rear-Admiral.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 13, 1864.

Lieut. Col. EDWARD W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Dept. of Va. and N. C.:

COLONEL: I respectfully apply for the return to duty with their respective regiments of all officers and enlisted men of this command now on detached service with the Twenty-fifth Army Corps. I am well aware that it is a matter of necessity that details should be made from the white troops for certain duties in that corps, but I respectfully suggest that the interests of the service would be promoted by making them from the troops in garrison in this department rather than from the active army in the field.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 5. } HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 13, 1864.

The troops at Camp Holly, Signal Hill, Four-Mile Church, and ravine redoubt, artillery and infantry, will be under the command of the senior officer at these posts, who, in cases of attack, will be held responsible for their proper defense, and at all times will be responsible for the policing of the camps, and that the works are kept in repair. This order will not be construed to interfere with the instructions of the chief of artillery to the artillery in the redoubts.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 43. HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 24TH A. C., *Before Richmond, Va., December 13, 1864.*

Capt. George H. Stowits, One hundredth New York Volunteers, is hereby announced as acting assistant adjutant-general on the staff of the colonel commanding, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Col. H. M. Plaisted, commanding brigade:

FRED. SANDROCK,
First Lieutenant and Acting Aide-de-Camp.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 13, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Colonel Evans, of the First Maryland Cavalry, reports to me that a party under the direction of some engineer officer has commenced cutting trees in the camp of the First Maryland Cavalry for the purpose of corduroying the New Market road, saying that they are directed to do so by General Ord. I presume it is not the general's intention to disturb the camp of the First Maryland, and trust that the party will be directed to cut their timber elsewhere.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

BUTLER'S HEADQUARTERS,
December 13, 1864—10 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER,
Williamsburg:

The commanding general directs that you order the two companies cavalry now at Williamsburg, with their officers, to be prepared to embark at moment's notice, any time after 3 o'clock to-morrow, to accompany me on special service. They will be armed with saber and carbine and take with them 100 rounds ammunition, four days' cooked and six [days'] uncooked rations, and three days' forage for their horses. The rations, forage, and ammunition will be put on board a transport that will be sent to receive them, that the men may be unencumbered. Every man that can be mounted will be required to go. Acknowledge receipt.

DAVENPORT,
Lieutenant and Aide-de-Camp.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 14, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington:

What has been done with Steele? He is too good a soldier immediately in command of troops to leave idle. As Canby asked his removal, I think it will be better to order Steele here in command of the Ninth Corps and send Parke to Canby.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *December 14, 1864—2 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

General Canby ordered Steele to Cairo before he received the orders of the War Department or my letter. By these orders Steele was to report to him at New Orleans. I think from Canby's letter that that arrangement will suit him. I would not change the order till Canby is heard from, after receiving the general order, as he has very few good officers and I think will want Steele's services.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 14, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Although Warren was called upon last evening on receipt of your telegram, and again this morning, I am yet without any further details than those transmitted in his dispatch of the 11th. In the absence of a report from Warren, I have made a résumé of the operations from my personal knowledge, which I send for your consideration.* As soon as Warren's report is received it will be transmitted.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 14, 1864.*
(Received 3 p. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

I wish you would have special attention directed to ascertaining if Hill's corps has gone south. It looks much as if it had.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 14, 1864—4.30 p. m. (Sent 4.45 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Deserters came in this a. m. and last night, belonging to Pegram's division, who report their division being relieved last evening by Lane's brigade, of Hill's corps. They were of the opinion, and from reports, that all of Hill's corps had returned or were returning to their old position. Their division (Pegram's), they said, was moved farther to the right on being relieved. This is all the information we have of Hill's movements.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

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* See Part I, p. 37.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 14, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

I am unexpectedly called away. Please address all dispatches for me to General Rawlins at these headquarters, and they will be forwarded.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

(Same to Major-General Ord.)

OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Donaldsonville Light Artillery, Richardson's battalion, A. P. Hill's corps, came into the lines of the First Division, Sixth Army Corps, about 1 o'clock this p. m. States that his battery is stationed near Fort No. 29, near the Jerusalem plank road, and did not move on the late march of A. P. Hill's corps. Understood that Hill's corps had returned and taken their old position. Wallace's brigade moved to the left again, in its old position, last evening. Thinks Johnson's division is now back again in its old position, and Wilcox's division also. Troops from Early's command moved down on the extreme right (enemy's right); consider the late movement a failure on our part; endeavor to convey the idea that our attack was upon Weldon, and that we got cut off and gave it up. Hill's corps suffered badly for want of overcoats and blankets. W. H. Alley, a refugee that came into our lines last evening, also brings news of the return of Hill's corps by the Military road yesterday afternoon.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 13 [14], 1864—6.20 p. m. (Sent 6.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The above dispatch forwarded for your information. I should judge there was no doubt of the return of Hill's corps, although a part may, perhaps, have been left behind or sent farther south.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Two deserters from the Twenty-first North Carolina Infantry, Lewis' brigade, Pegram's division, came into the lines of the Second Division, Sixth Army Corps, about midnight; left the trenches at dark last evening, at which time Lane's brigade, of A. P. Hill's corps,

was moving into their old quarters again, having just returned from down the plank road. Informants understood that all of Hill's corps had returned; saw and conversed with men from the Twenty-eighth and Thirty-third North Carolina, Lane's brigade. From informants we learn that Pegram's division moved to the right last evening, after the arrival of Hill's corps; how far, they cannot say. Lane's brigade was stationed from Battery No. 45 to the (enemy's) right and across Oak Grove road, in front of the Jones house. Lewis' brigade, of Pegram's division, has been occupying the same position, but was understood to have moved to the right last evening. Informants are conscripts, and have only been in the army one week to-day, joining their command in the Valley while it was on its way to Richmond. Have no other information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 14, 1864.

Captain MCENTEE:

Deserters from Pegram's division report Lewis' brigade back last night; also the return of A. P. Hill's corps yesterday p. m. Pegram's division, and perhaps Gordon's, moved to the enemy's extreme right last evening, supposed in reserve.

J. C. B[ABCOCK].

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The Church road station reports:

At 9.30 a. m. three pieces of artillery and one caisson moved toward Petersburg on Cox road. During the day rather more wagons than the usual number were moving in both directions on Boydton and Cox roads, but no long trains noticed.

Plank road station reports:

The few tents taken down in our front on the night of the 8th were put up last night. Lines to the right and near Jerusalem plank road appear stronger than formerly; to the left are as before.

Avery house station reports that the enemy put up a number of tents to the left of lead-works during the day. At 11.30 a. m. the enemy took three pieces of artillery, probably the same mentioned in report from Church road station, into the works to the right of Fort Mahone. A small herd of cattle came into Petersburg from the direction of Richmond.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant Signal Corps:

9.20 A. M.

No change in enemy's lines this a. m.

MARCY.

9.50 A. M.

Enemy ran train into town on Richmond railroad last evening loaded with wood, and ran out empty.

JORDAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 14, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieutenant DILLINGHAM,
Signal Officer:

All quiet this p. m. No change has been observed during the day. The following was intercepted:

STEUART'S FRONT—9.30 a. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Late yesterday evening one regiment of infantry left Battery A and went to rear of same battery. About half an hour afterward squads of infantry were passing on same road toward the battery; from C one regiment of infantry passed Point of Rocks going toward lower pontoon. Steamer off Strahan's lower landing. Gunboat in same position. The houses in open space have been evacuated.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

11.20 A. M.

Major P.:

One regiment of infantry just passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left. One train—four box-cars and ten flats—passed, going same direction. The boxes had troops on top.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

12.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Five companies of infantry drilling on Point of Rocks. Eight wagons passed open space going in direction of Bermuda Hundred.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

1.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One regiment of infantry drawn up in line at Point of Rocks and one company near Strahan's house. One company infantry just passed open space going toward front in Chesterfield.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

STEUART'S FRONT—2.05 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Early this morning one regiment of infantry was drilling behind Battery A. Forty wagons passed up the river and twenty-five down. No movements of troops or change of camps.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

3.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

One very large steamer just came down the river loaded with troops.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

3.45 P. M.

Major P.:

Evening report: There has passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, exclusive of special reports, one train of fourteen box-cars, the tops of which were crowded with troops, and forty wagons. Rear of same battery, going toward City Point, four trains, one of ten box-cars and four flats, one of ten flats, one of eight flats, and one of twelve box-cars, and forty wagons.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

Two trains have passed on the old track this side of Whitehead's, going toward Petersburg.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
December 14, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Col. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

At 2.30 p. m. a train of fifteen wagons passed west on the Cox road. No change observed in the enemy's lines on this front this day. All quiet in their camps.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 447. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 14, 1864.

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6. The resignation of Maj. Gen. Thomas L. Crittenden, U. S. Volunteers, has been accepted by the President, to take effect December 13, 1864.

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By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, 338. } HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 14, 1864.

* * * * * * *

4. The commander of the cavalry division will at once detach a company of cavalry of not less than fifty privates, with orders to report to

Major-General Wright, commanding Sixth Corps, to serve as an escort to the corps commander, and to perform such provost duty as may be required of mounted troops.

5. Captain Soper's unassigned company of New York Volunteers, temporarily serving with the Second Army Corps, is assigned to the One hundred and eighty-ninth Regiment New York Volunteers, Fifth Army Corps, which it will proceed to join with as little delay as practicable.

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By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864—10.40 a. m. (Received 10.45 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Gibbon's division, relieved yesterday by Getty's division, Sixth Corps, is now encamped on the Vaughan road, 1,000 yards beyond the rear line of intrenchments, near Davis' house. The garrison of Fort Emery has been relieved by the Nineteenth Massachusetts and Seventh Michigan Volunteers, Second Division, Second Corps, and Lieutenant-Colonel Rice, of the former regiment, commands the fort. No other changes to report.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864—7.15 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Thirteenth South Carolina, McGowan's brigade, Wilcox's division, has just come in. He states that his brigade and Scales' and Lane's brigades left the intrenchments Thursday night, marched through Dinwiddie Court-House to Jarratt's Station, where they met the other troops of Hill's corps, and all began to return on that day, halting Sunday night at the bridge over the Nottoway, and on Monday night at Dinwiddie Court-House, getting back into the intrenchments last evening, and relieving Early's troops that had before relieved them. He represents himself to be a conscript, and only to have joined the command last Wednesday night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
[*December 14, 1864*]—*8 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

If the foregoing statement can be relied on, Hill's whole corps has returned.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I beg leave to recommend that the following-named officers, who have commands equal to their brevet rank, be assigned to duty by the President with that rank. This will enable them to have the staff which, by law and regulation, are considered necessary to the performance of the duties which have devolved upon them: Bvt. Maj. Gen. Nelson A. Miles, commanding First Division, Second Corps; Bvt. Brig. Gen. George N. Macy, commanding First Brigade, First Division; Bvt. Brig. Gen. Robert McAllister, commanding First Brigade, Third Division. I beg leave also to recommend that Maj. and Bvt. Lieut. Col. John G. Hazard, First Rhode Island Artillery, commanding Artillery Brigade, Second Corps, and First Lieut. and [Bvt.] Capt. John W. Roder, Fourth U. S. Artillery, commanding Battery K, be assigned to duty with their brevet ranks.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 266. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864.

The brigadier-general commanding desires to express his gratification at the gallant manner in which the passage of Hatcher's Run was forced, on the 9th instant, in the face of an intrenched enemy and over the obstacles by which he had made it so difficult. To Maj. George Hogg, Capt. George A. Armes, and Lieut. O. T. Bliss, all of the Second New York Artillery, who crossed at the head of the troops, is credit due for their gallant conduct and example. This affair, with that of October 27, when 100 men of the One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, under Capt. J. Z. Brown, assaulted and captured a fort of the enemy opposite Fort Morton, proves that any position can be carried by resolute and determined soldiers, led by skillful and gallant officers. Captain Brown's gallantry has been recognized by promotion to rank of brevet major, and it will give the general commanding pleasure to recommend for brevets the officers who distinguished themselves at Hatcher's Run.

By order of Brigadier-General Miles:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that the troops of this division are encamped in the woods between the Lewis house and the open field near the Davis house, left of Vaughan road.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 14, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires that you will furnish him immediately with a brief summary of your recent operations, so that he can answer without further delay a dispatch he yesterday received from the lieutenant-general commanding. The commanding general does not desire any detailed report from you at this moment, but only the information as to the principal incidents of your expedition that will enable him to frame a telegraphic dispatch to General Grant. Major Jay, aide-de-camp, who takes this note to you, has been instructed to await the desired report.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864—11 a. m.

General S. WILLIAMS:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that I established my infantry picket-line from the Weldon railroad, connecting with the Second Corps at Colonel Wyatt's road, east to near Gary's Church and then east to Brown's, on the Lee's Mill road, where I connect with the cavalry. I have 1,500 men on picket; 500 from each division.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 37. } HDQRS. SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 14, 1864.

The brevet major-general commanding takes pleasure in laying before the command the following extracts from General Orders, No. 65, headquarters Fifth Army Corps:

The command having returned from its late expedition, having successfully accomplished its mission, the destruction of the Weldon railroad as far as Hicksford, making forced marches during six days and nights in the most inclement weather, the major-general commanding considers it his duty to express to his division commanders—Brevet Major-General Gregg, commanding Second Cavalry Division, Brevet Major-Generals Griffin, Ayres, and Crawford, of the Fifth Corps, and Brevet Major-General Mott, commanding Third Division, Second Army Corps—his high appreciation and commendation of their performance of the instructions issued to them by him.

The thanks of the brevet major-general commanding division are due to his brigade commanders, Brevet Brigadier-Generals Winthrop, Denison, and Gwyn, and the officers and men under them, for the prompt and efficient manner in which all his commands were executed under the many trying circumstances in which they were placed.

By command of Brevet Major-General Ayres:

E. T. YARDLEY,
Brevet Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: When the Sixth Corps was detached from the Army of the Potomac in July six of its twelve batteries were left behind and are now distributed, three on the line held by the Ninth Corps and three in reserve, the line now held by this corps being occupied by the artillery of the Fifth Corps. The batteries which accompanied the corps were under instructions to be left in Washington, where it is presumed that three of them have already arrived, the remaining two having been, it is unofficially understood, retained in the Valley by General Sheridan. With a view to reorganizing the Artillery Brigade of this corps, I have the honor to suggest that the six batteries now here be returned to it, and that the three, which it was proposed to leave in Washington, be also ordered to join the corps here. The number of guns of the Fifth Corps now on the Sixth Corps line is forty-four, with twelve guns in reserve. The batteries of this corps now here number thirty-four guns (eighteen rifled and sixteen smooth-bore), and the three in Washington, twelve guns (all rifled), making forty-six in all, or two guns more than suffice for arming the line. Should more artillery be deemed necessary I would desire to have the two batteries retained in the Valley of Virginia, if they can be relieved consistently with the public interest by other batteries. These batteries are M, Fifth United States, and the Fifth Maine Battery Volunteers, both six guns smooth-bore.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
December 14, 1864.

Maj. H. STEVENS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division, Sixth Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to recommend for brevet the following officers of my old command, the First Brigade, Second Division, Sixth Corps:

Lieut. Col. Theo. B. Hamilton, Sixty-second New York Veteran Volunteers, to be colonel by brevet, for gallantry at the Wilderness and Spotsylvania, May 9, 1864, in which battle he was wounded. First Lieut. and Adjt. William W. Sherman, Sixty-second New York Veteran Volunteers, to be captain by brevet for gallantry at Winchester September 19, 1864, in which battle he was wounded. Capt. D. C. Keller, Ninety-third Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, to be major by brevet for distinguished services through the campaign. He was wounded at Petersburg June 20, 1864. Col. John F. Ballier, Ninety-eighth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, to be brigadier-general by brevet for distinguished gallantry throughout the campaign. (Has commanded his regiment nearly four years and been wounded three times, the last time at Fort Stevens, very severely.) Capt. James Patchell, One hundred and second Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, to be major by brevet for gallantry at Winchester, September 19, 1864. Capt. James D. Duncan, One hundred and second Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, to be major by brevet for distinguished gallantry at Win-

chester September 19, 1864. Capt. John G. Parr, One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, to be major by brevet for meritorious services at Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864, in which battle he was wounded. Maj. Robert Munroe, One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, to be lieutenant colonel by brevet, for meritorious services at Winchester, September 19, 1864. Capt. A. S. Warner, One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, to be major by brevet, for gallantry in the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, in which battle he was wounded. Capt. George Clendenin, jr., assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, to be major by brevet, for gallant conduct in the battle of the Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864, in which battle he was wounded, but did not leave the field, and to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet for distinguished gallantry at the battles of Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Winchester, Fisher's and Flint Hills, September 22, 1864, in which battle he was again wounded. This officer has been in every battle in which this corps has been engaged since its organization, and in all in which the Army of the Potomac was engaged before the Sixth Corps was organized. Capt. John Snodgrass, One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, aide-de-camp, to be major by brevet, for meritorious conduct in the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and particularly at the battle of the Opequon, near Winchester, Va., on the 19th of September, 1864. Capt. Robert W. Lyon, One hundred and second Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, aide-de-camp, to be major by brevet, for distinguished services in the battle of the Opequon, near Winchester, Va., in which battle he was very severely wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. WHEATON,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. THOMAS,
Adjutant-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.:

GENERAL: I have the honor to request that Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. Warren Keifer, U. S. Volunteers, be assigned to duty according to his brevet rank, in order that he may obtain a command, for which he is eminently fitted, and that he has long exercised.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. SEYMOUR,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

All quiet along our lines. There were some movements in the enemy's line during the night indicating a change of troops, probably a re-occupation of their old position.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 14, 1864.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit the following statement concerning the deficiency in ammunition for the regiments of this division that were left in camp when the division last moved: Thinking it not improbable that the impression was made that the two regiments (Thirteenth Pennsylvania and Sixth Ohio Cavalry) which remained behind are armed with Burnside carbines, I will state that nearly three-fourths of the carbines in use by these two regiments are Sharps, for which there was an abundance of ammunition. I believe the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry is also armed with Sharps carbines. After the departure of the division there was a deficiency in ammunition for the 176 Burnside carbines in use in the two regiments, and I believe the deficiency to have been caused in this manner: Captain Allibone, division ordnance officer, loaded ten wagons with the full supply of reserve ammunition to accompany the division on a recent movement. After having done this, and during the night before the division marched, requisitions were made by regiments to supply deficiencies resulting from the additional rounds carried by each trooper in his saddle-bags, having in some cases become damaged by rain and from the motion of the horse in the performance of picket and scouting duty. Issues were made from the reserve ammunition not to be taken with the division. This reduced the supply of ammunition below that required to be kept on hand for the Burnside carbines in use in the two regiments. Captain Allibone reports that he received orders on the night of the 6th to have his train in readiness to move at a moment's notice, and having on hand some ordnance stores just received and which he could not issue to the regiments, he believed it to be his duty to load these stores and not at that time make requisition for ammunition which he would probably not receive. Knowing that three-fourths of the carbines in use in the two regiments were Sharps, for which he had an abundance of ammunition, he did not anticipate an immediate demand for Burnside ammunition. Captain Allibone has always performed his duty well, and I have never before known any deficiency in the supply of ammunition for which he could at all be held responsible. I cannot but regret that Colonel Kerwin failed to report fully the exact number of Burnside carbines in his two regiments, for with a full supply of ammunition for the Sharps carbines, the commanding general might have directed the movement of a sufficient cavalry force to have accomplished all its intended purposes. The officer responsible for the failure to provide a supply of ammunition to meet deficiencies can only be Capt. F. B. Allibone, division ordnance officer, whose explanation is that given above.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Commanding Division.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 14, 1864—10 a. m.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Fortress Monroe, Va.:

What is the prospect for getting your expedition started? It is a great pity we were not ten or twelve days earlier. I am confident it

would then have been successful. Have you heard from Palmer? The Richmond papers give no account of any Federals on the Roanoke or Weldon road south of Weldon.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

ON BOARD BEN DE FORD,
Fort Monroe, December 14, 1864—10.35 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Admiral Porter started yesterday. Transport fleet are at Cape Henry. I am just starting. The weather for the last six days has been such that it would be useless to be on the coast. Expedition left Plymouth Wednesday last. You will remember that you have cut communication between Weldon and Petersburg. Everything is off in the best time possible.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 14, 1864. (Received 7.55 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I learned to-day from prisoners in yesterday morning that Kershaw's troops are still in my front.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 14, 1864—1.30 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer on Crow's Nest tower reports:

The enemy are building a new battery between the second and third to their left of Cox's Ferry. They have mounted another 7-inch gun on the south side of river, to their left of the one they signaled about on the night of the 7th, midway between Howlett's house and Fort Darling.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Department of Va. and N. C.

FORT BRADY, VA., *December 14, 1864.*

Bvt. Brig. Gen. H. L. ABBOT,
Commanding Siege Artillery:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the enemy opened on this work at about 4 p. m. this day. Had the detachments at their pieces and gave them a broadside in return for their first shot. Feared that it might injure the parapet. Examined closely and found no damage done. Waited a short time, when they sent three or four shots in succession. Gave them a second broadside. They didn't fire again, but we gave them a closing volley. Most of our shots struck well, and am

of the opinion that our mode of firing had good effect. One of the enemy's shells struck so near a limber just in rear of Mr. Woodruff's house as to raise the wheel two or three feet from the ground without injuring either the limber or the shanty. Another struck quite harmlessly inside the fort. Mr. Birney was here.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. PIERCE,
Captain, First Connecticut Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 10. } HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS, *December 14, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

4. Surg. A. J. H. Buzzell, Third New Hampshire Volunteers, is hereby appointed medical inspector Twenty-fourth Army Corps, vice Surg. J. M. Rice, Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers, appointed medical inspector Army of the James.

* * * * * * *

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 6. } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 25TH ARMY CORPS, *In the Field, Va., December 14, 1864.*

The following-named officers are hereby announced on the staff of the brigadier-general commanding, viz: Capt. Theodore C. Glazier, One hundred and sixteenth U. S. Colored Troops, acting assistant adjutant-general, vice Lieut. J. B. West, aide-de-camp, relieved; Capt. William E. Furness, Forty-fifth U. S. Colored Troops, provost-marshal and judge-advocate. All official communications intended for these headquarters will be addressed to Captain Glazier.

By command of Brig. Gen. William Birney:

JAMES B. WEST,
First Lieut., Aide-de-Camp and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILLIAMSBURG, *December 14, 1864—2.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant DAVENPORT,
Headquarters Army of the James:

Just received your dispatch. Have sent for one company of the First New York Mounted Rifles, Captain Oberteuffer; one company of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, Captain Bouvé. They will be at Grove's Wharf as soon as possible.

J. C. HICKS,
Major Sixteenth New York, Commanding Post.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 15, 1864—10.30 a. m. (Sent 11.15 a. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Among the list of brevet commissions forwarded by you for distribution I do not find the name of Brig. Gen. J. J. Bartlett, who was recommended for the brevet of major-general in a letter from Major-Gen-

eral Warren, dated October 23, and forwarded from these headquarters October 25, 1864. The first list I transmitted to you was dated September 19. General Bartlett's name was not placed on that list by General Warren, as the latter owns through inadvertence, but as General Bartlett did not at that time have the command of a division, I should not have included his name, had General Warren presented it, on the ground that of confining my recommendation of general officers to those actually holding the commands to which they were to be promoted. When General Warren corrected his error, which he did on October 23, I forwarded his letter, with my approval, as I had notified you in my letter of September 19 that it was my intention to present additional names to the list then forwarded. Subsequently, on November 24, I forwarded a long list from each of the corps commanders. General Bartlett's name having been previously transmitted, was not included in this last list, and from this cause I presume has escaped your notice when making out the appointments, as I cannot otherwise account for his being omitted. In this view of the case, and believing, through an accident, which was designed to do justice to General Bartlett, he has suffered the reverse, I beg leave to call his case to your attention, and to ask, if it be practicable, his letter of appointment may be sent to him and his name transmitted to the Senate, together with those already appointed. I have special reasons for asking this may be done, not only to correct what seems to be an accidental omission, but because General Bartlett, through the action of the Senate, has lost a great deal of rank as brigadier-general, but particularly because I desire to assign him to the command of a division, and wish him to have the necessary rank.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 15, 1864.*
(Received 3.15 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

Lieutenant-General Grant left last evening for Washington and will probably reach there this afternoon.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 15, 1864—4.20 p. m.*
(Received 7 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The Richmond papers contain the following dispatch:

DECEMBER 13, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

While General Warren was before Belfield the enemy moved up the Roanoke against Fort Branch and from New Berne against Kinston. Both parties retired before the forces sent against them. All is quiet in that district.

R. E. LEE.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

WASHINGTON CITY, *December 15, 1864—11.50 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. J. A. RAWLINS,
City Point, Va.:

I send you dispatch just received from Nashville.* I shall not now go there. Will remain absent, however, until about Monday.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: A deserter from McGowan's brigade (Thirteenth South Carolina), Wilcox's division, Hill's corps, came into the lines of the Second Army Corps on General Miles' front last evening; has been in service only a week, and cannot give much information. McGowan's brigade returned to its old position on Tuesday afternoon, and Early's troops moved out toward the Boydton plank road; does not know which way they went; some of the men in McGowan's brigade barefoot, many without overcoats or blankets; suffered a great deal on the late march.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 15, 1864—5 p. m.

Lieut. L. A. DILLINGHAM:

All quiet this p. m. No change observed during the day. The following were intercepted:

10.05 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A small increase of houses on Gilliam's farm. Steamer just came up the river. Gun-boat in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

3.30 [P. M.]

Major P.:

Evening report: There has passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, three trains, one of four box-cars and one flat, one of twelve box-cars and four flats, and one of twelve box-cars and two flats, and seventy-two wagons. In rear of same battery, going toward City Point, three trains, one of five box-cars, one of twelve box-cars, and one of six flats, and forty-seven wagons.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

STEUART'S FRONT—4.30 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this p. m. One regiment of infantry just passed open space going toward Point of Rocks. Gun-boat in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

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* See Thomas to Halleck, December 15, 9 p. m., Vol. XLV.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 15, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

The several stations report no changes, excepting that the force between the Jerusalem plank road and the lead-works appears to be stronger than it was prior to the last move. Small working parties engaged to the right and left of Pegram's battery—the Crater fort.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 15, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of my troops, and nothing of interest occurred since last report.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 319. } *In Camp, before Petersburg, Va.,*
December 15, 1864.

* * * * * * *

2. The arrangements for the presentation of medals by the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac, announced in paragraph 4, Special Orders, No. 309, current series, from these headquarters, will be carried into effect at 4 p. m. this day. Division commanders will see that the troops designated in the order above referred to are on the ground in the vicinity of these headquarters at 3.30 p. m. Such regiments as are on detached duty or on picket need not be relieved, but such men as are to receive medals, who may be on picket or other duty, will be at once relieved therefrom, in order that they may be present. Division commanders will notify the commanding general without delay what regiments will be absent from the presentation, under the preceding paragraph, and a staff officer from each division will report to these headquarters for information as to the ground upon which the respective troops are to be formed.

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By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 15, 1864.

Major-General WARREN,
Fifth Corps:

I shall be glad to see you over here at the presentation of medals this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
No. 307. } *December 15, 1864.*

I. The batteries of the Artillery Brigade not in the forts will be moved to the new camp of the corps as fast as they can be made comfortable in the new position. The headquarters of the brigade will be removed to the vicinity of these headquarters.

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By command of Major-General Warren:

FRED. T. LOCKE,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 15, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing new along our lines. The cannonading yesterday evening was confined to the right of our line. Commenced by our people opening upon a working party of the enemy. No casualties or definite results.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 15, 1864.

The order directing the movement of the division to a new position east of that now occupied having been suspended, the picket-line will be re-established in the order in which the brigades are camped. The Third Brigade will picket from the left of the infantry picket-line across by Davenport Church to the point where the Lee's Mill and Prince George Court-House road crosses Second Swamp, establishing strong reserves on the road from McCann's to Lee's Mill on the Norfolk railroad, or in that vicinity, and in rear of Davenport Church.

The Second Brigade will picket from the left of the line of the Third Brigade on the road leading north from Sinai Church to a point about midway to the stage road, with strong reserves on the Quaker road near and in rear of Sinai Church.

The First Brigade will connect with the Second, and picket to the James, with strong reserves at Prince George Court-House and on the stage and telegraph roads.

The instructions heretofore given concerning the measures to be taken to secure the reserves against surprises, by posting sentinels during the day and night to the rear as well as in front and on the flanks, as also by constructing barriers to obstruct the approach of the enemy, will be strictly carried out. Pickets will be posted so that each will have in view those immediately upon his right and left, and adjacent pickets will be posted within easy communicating distance. Brigade commanders will send out frequent scouting parties in front of their lines, and the commander of the Third Brigade will send scouting parties down the plank road and toward Reams' Station, so that any movement of the enemy may be at once discovered. Upon the establishment of the line as directed, brigade commanders will forward a report

of the disposition of their picket details. Three hundred men from each brigade will perform its picket duty. The picket-line will be established, as directed, on the morning of the 16th.

By command of Brevet Major-General Gregg:

A. H. BIBBER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

General Ferrero, commanding Bermuda Defenses, reports his command very weak. His men have to go on picket duty every other night. Can the Twenty-eighth U. S. Colored, belonging to his command, and now at City Point, be ordered to him?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 15, 1864.*

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Army of the James:

The Twenty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops is very much needed here just now. It may be two weeks before they can be relieved, but as soon as they can be relieved they will be sent to join their division.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 15, 1864—11.57 a. m.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

The signal officer from Signal Hill sends the following:

There has been picket-firing in our front, and our dismounted cavalry are formed behind the breast-works in order.

The corps officer of the day reported slight skirmishing on the Johnson plantation about 5 o'clock this morning by the cavalry. Thinks it was nothing but an attempt to resume a position from which the vedettes had retired during the night and which the enemy were disposed to contest.

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General FOSTER,
First Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the brevet major-general commanding the corps to direct your attention to an irregularity in the manner in which picket duty is performed on your division front. To the right of

the New Market road a large portion of the line picketed runs through a dense undergrowth. The vedettes or line of sentinels are thrown out on a path perpendicular to the line of pickets or second line, and have no connection by a line parallel to that of the pickets. The vedettes are sentinels to watch the enemy and to prevent any persons from going out or coming in without being observed. They should, through the woods, constantly patrol their beats on clear and unobstructed paths connecting with the sentinels right and left. As the picket duty is now performed, there is no trouble for either an enemy to come in or a deserter to go out.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. 3D BRIG., 1ST DIV., 24TH A. C.,
No. 45. } *Before Richmond, Va., December 15, 1864.*

The parapet of the works in front of the brigade is assigned as follows: From the sally-port No. 1 to the left of the First Brigade, sally-port included, to the One hundredth New York Volunteers; from the sally-port to the redan, to the Tenth Connecticut Volunteers; from the redan to the angle of the works, the redan included, to the Two hundred and sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers; from said angle to the right of the Second Brigade, to the Eleventh Maine Volunteers. The One hundredth New York will furnish three sentinels, Tenth Connecticut two, Two hundred and sixth Pennsylvania four (one to be posted in the redan), and the Eleventh Maine two, for their respective fronts. A sentry will be posted at the sally-port, no one to pass through unless on duty connected with the outposts or for the purposes of drill. No one will be allowed to pass the parapet. Commanding officers of each regiment will see that the portion of the parapet assigned to him is put in good condition and kept so. Where it is needed a banquette of logs or earth will be constructed without delay.

By order of Col. H. M. Plaisted, commanding brigade:

GEO. H. STOWITS,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 15, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report all quiet on this front. Four deserters came in from the enemy last night. The noise in the enemy's camps night before last was caused by the return of troops who had been taken from the line for duty opposite Dutch Gap.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. FERRERO,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 15, 1864.

General KAUTZ:

You will make a personal inspection immediately of the whole cavalry picket and vedette line, and make a report of its position with reference to our line of works and the enemy's line, its strength in numbers and what changes, if any, are made in the vedettes and pickets at night. The report will be accompanied by a sketch, and sent in to-night if possible.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
In the Field, December 15, 1864.

Brig. Gen. JOHN W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff, Army of the James:

GENERAL: In obedience to orders received from the general commanding, I inspected the entire line of cavalry pickets and found no changes since my visit yesterday, the affair reported in the morning having been nothing more than an ambuscade to capture some of our vedettes. They succeeded in capturing one, and retired soon after. The accompanying sketch* will show the points required in the general's order, viz, the enemy's line of vedettes approximately; the line of works, and our line of cavalry and infantry pickets, and their position with reference to the intrenchments. The sketch is as complete as I could make it in the time allowed, as it required all of daylight after receiving the order to make the personal inspection required. Each brigade commander has charge of a portion of the line in proportion to the strength of his command. Colonel Evans, Third Brigade, has nineteen mounted posts on the left, supported by twenty dismounted men posted in rear, in two detachments of ten each. Colonel West, First Brigade, has charge of the center, and has twenty-five mounted posts, and has thirty-nine dismounted men posted in little reserves of a corporal and three men in rear a short distance, to support the line. Colonel Spear, Second Brigade, has fourteen mounted posts mostly in open ground on the right, extending from near Fussell's Mill to Sweeney's, where the line rests on the slough formed by Four-Mile Creek and Bailey's Run. There are in all fifty-eight mounted posts, all in sight of each other; that is to say, each post is visible from the posts on the right and left, and in addition are the dismounted men supporting the line on that portion held by the First and Third Brigades. Very little change is made in this line at night. Some posts that are more exposed than others are drawn back a little at night and advanced again in the morning. This was the case this morning when, in advancing that portion posted along the old line of intrenchments to the Darbytown road, the enemy had during the night occupied the old works, and were concealed behind them, and suddenly rushed out upon our men and succeeded in seizing one of the horses by the bridle. Only a portion of the enemy's line of pickets is visible.

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* Not found.

The dots on our own line indicate the number and position of the sentinels. On the enemy's side they only indicate his line approximately.

Respectfully submitted.

Your obedient servant,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD BRIGADE, CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 15, 1864.

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Cavalry Division:

MAJOR: I have to report that the vedettes of my picket-line, upon advancing to their day position this morning, found a strong line of the enemy along the Darbytown road, to the left, and in the breast-works, and one of our men was captured by them. The enemy still holds the breast-works and the portion of the road in front of the fields. My line is now established from the point of wood on the left across the fields in the rear of the Johnson house to the Darby road on the right, connecting with Colonel West. I have sent one battalion to the line. The enemy is not advancing.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. W. EVANS,
Colonel First Maryland Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
December 15, 1864.

Capt. A. L. FITCH,
Thirteenth [New York] Artillery:

SIR: Please say to General Butler that immediately upon the arrival of General Wild at this place the force was dispatched to Plymouth. I had an interview with the senior naval officer from that place; everything was to be in readiness to move at 2 o'clock on the morning of the 8th. The following day an expedition was sent to threaten Kinston from here. It is presumed that the expedition from Plymouth started at the precise hour designated, but I have no official information from that expedition since it left Plymouth. Unofficial information has been brought here that three of the naval vessels, to wit, the Otsego, Blakesby, and Picket-boat No. 2, had all been seriously injured by torpedoes in the Roanoke about twelve miles above Plymouth. This is the only information I get from the expedition up the Roanoke. The expedition from here to Kinston encountered unforeseen obstacles in the sudden rise of water in the Neuse River. All calculations based upon fording the river were frustrated thereby. The most fearful and violent weather commenced at the starting out of the expedition. It was, perhaps, successful in drawing away attention from forces up the Roanoke. I cannot account for not having received anything official from the Roanoke, and shall send immediately to ascertain the state of affairs.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 16, 1864—1.30 p. m.*
(Received 2.15 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Captain Babcock, of the secret service, sends the following information:

We have positive information of the return of all of A. P. Hill's corps, and, as far as heard from, all of his brigades have returned to their former position, and the two divisions from the Valley, Pegram's and Gordon's, have moved to the enemy's extreme right, and are probably in reserve. We have but very few deserters lately, chiefly conscripts, that can tell us nothing. Hill's corps suffered severely on late march; many of his men were barefooted.

JNO. A. RAWLINS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 16, 1864—10 a. m. (Sent 10.15 a. m.)

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

Your dispatch announcing General Thomas' success has been received with great satisfaction, as the situation of affairs at Nashville was such as to afford cause for anxiety. I had every confidence in the judgment and high soldierly qualities of General Thomas, and am truly rejoiced to hear of his brilliant success.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 16, 1864—4.20 p. m.*

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

In the heavy firing this afternoon is there anything indicative of any movement on the part of the enemy? If so, please communicate it to these headquarters, or to General Ord, for his information. In a dispatch from General Ord last night, and in a communication to-day, he fears for his Bermuda front, and asks that the Twenty-eighth U. S. Colored Troops, on fatigue duty here, or some other regiment, be sent to report to General Ferrero, at Bermuda; that the withdrawal of troops for General Weitzel's expedition has left him so weak on the north side of the river that he cannot detach from there without great danger. In case of an attack it was General Grant's desire that you assume command of all the forces, and if it becomes necessary to do so the order will be made here.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 16, 1864—4.30 p. m. (Sent 5 p. m.)

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

If there is any cause for concern for Bermuda Hundred, Brigadier-General Benham's command might be sent there from the lines in front of City Point. He ought to be able to take over some 2,000 men.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 16, 1864—4.45 p. m. (Sent 5 p. m.)

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

Your dispatch of 4.20 just received. There is nothing to indicate a movement on the part of the enemy. They opened this p. m. on the Ninth Corps front with a heavy gun, to which our batteries have been replying. This would have been reported if I did not presume you would construe my silence as indicative that all was right.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Deserter from Thirty-eighth North Carolina, Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, forwarded to-day, reports Scales' brigade in its old position, extending from Battery No. 45 to the left to Battery No. 36, about three-fourths of a mile east of the Weldon railroad; Evans' brigade (Wallace's) on left of Scales'; Lane's brigade on right of Scales', in its old position; Gordon's and Pegram's divisions in reserve on extreme right of the line in rear of Heth's division. Deserter from Thirty-fifth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, of Johnson's division, reports Ransom's brigade on extreme left between City Point Railroad and the Appomattox; Gracie's brigade on right of Ransom's; Johnson's division moved back to its old position last Wednesday; Early's troops (Gordon's and Pegram's) gone out somewhere on the right, reported to Weldon. Deserter from First Tennessee, Archer's brigade, of Heth's division, reports Archer's brigade in its old quarters. Informant is a conscript, and has no further information.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: A deserter from the Nineteenth Mississippi, Mahone's division, Harris' brigade, came into the lines of the Sixth Army Corps this p. m.; states that Mahone's division returned to its old position in the rear of the line, and to the west of the Boydton plank road, after the late movement. Informant did not accompany his command during the march, having been left behind on picket, where he was kept eight days; states that all the brigades of Mahone's division returned and are occupying the quarters previously erected, and doing picket duty at the interval between Lane's and Scales' brigades, of Wilcox's division, immediately in front of Battery No. 45.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 16, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The only thing of interest observed to-day within the enemy's lines was the movement of two wagon trains into Petersburg from the direction of Richmond; one of seventy-eight wagons, the other of sixty-four wagons. A drove of about 150 head of cattle moved toward Richmond, seen north of Pocahontas.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant:

DECEMBER 16—9.20 a. m.

No change in this front this a. m.

JORDAN.

9.30 A. M.

The fog is so thick that I cannot see beyond the lines.

MARCY.

Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER:

The 8-inch mortar battery to the front and left of columbiad and the 10-inch mortar battery have opened on Fort Rice.

MARCY.

Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER:

The enemy have opened with columbiads. Forts Morton and Avery are replying.

MARCY.

Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 16, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Colonel FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

At 12 m. 120 men came from west of large fort and disappeared on the ——— road running toward our left. At 1.30 p. m. about 100 men came into works northwest of station and scattered along works extending as far to the right as the plank road; have since put up tents. Working parties were reported yesterday, and are very active at all points, hauling wood and repairing quarters; hauling something, apparently railroad iron, from line west of railroad.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
December 16, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Col. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

No change observed in the enemy's line on this front to-day. Thirteen wagons passed this front west and two east on Cox road since last report.

GEO. W. OAKES.
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 16, 1864—8.45 p. m.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following report has just been received from the officer with the Second Corps:

The enemy have been strengthening their lines to-day. To our left of Fort Fisher the picket-posts have been connected, making a continuous breast-work. They have also been at work on what seems to be a fort on Boisseau's property.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain.

The accompanying intercepted messages are respectfully forwarded.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Walthall House, December 16, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieutenant STRYKER:

Nothing new to report this p. m.

JORDAN.

5 P. M.

All quiet this p. m. At 4 p. m. smoke was observed from an engine on a road about two miles west of the Richmond and Petersburg road. The engine was moving in nearly a southwest direction and toward the South Side Railroad. I think this is a new road being built there, as smoke from an engine has never been observed there before. The following has been intercepted:

"11 A. M.

"Major P.:

"Train of eight box-cars, the tops crowded with troops, just passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left.

"W.,
"*Sergeant, at D.*"

"11.30 A. M.

"Colonel B.:

"All quiet this a. m. Gun-boat in same position. A new camp of about thirty tents has been observed to our right of Point of Rocks.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"STEUART'S FRONT—3.25 p. m.

"Nothing unusual since last report. Drilling behind Battery A. Fifteen passed down and ten up. Some sharpshooting in our front from Dunn's. Steamer off Strahan's lower landing. One company of infantry drilling at Point of Rocks.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*"

"3.30 P. M.

"Major P.:

"Report exclusive of special report: There have passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's, two trains of seven coaches, and the number of the other we could not count, and thirty-five wagons. Rear of same battery, going toward City Point, two trains, one of five coaches, the number of the other also could not be counted, and thirty wagons.

"W.,
"*Sergeant, at D.*"

H. W. HOLMAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

L. A. DILLINGHAM,
Lieutenant and Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES,
No. 151. } *City Point, Va., December 16, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham, commanding defenses at City Point, will, without delay, detach from his command 1,000 men, under their proper officers, with directions to report to General Ferrero, commanding Bermuda Hundred Defenses, for temporary duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

E. S. PARKER,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Military Secretary.

HDQRS. ENGINEER BRIG. AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT,
December 16, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. M. CLOUGH,
Commanding Eighteenth New Hampshire Volunteers:

Five hundred men of the Fifteenth [New York] Engineers have been ordered to report to you immediately, under Major Slosson, also 75 men from the Michigan sharpshooters, and 125 from the Maine sharpshooters.

You will take with these 300 men from your regiment, making 1,000 in all, and immediately proceed, via the pontoon bridge at Broadway Landing, to the Bermuda Hundred line, where you will report to General Ferrero, commanding defenses, for temporary duty. The men will take all their equipments, sixty rounds of ammunition, and two days' rations. The movement must be executed as rapidly as possible, and if Major Slosson does not report as soon as the infantry is ready you will proceed with them, leaving the Engineers to follow.

By order of Brig. Gen. H. W. Benham:

CHANNING CLAPP,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864—10 a. m. (Received 10.10 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of my command during the last twenty-four hours. Two men deserted from the First Division picket-line last night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

I send up a deserter from the First Tennessee, Fry's brigade, formerly Archer's. He is a conscript, sixteen years old, very dull.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864—2 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

The enemy are strengthening works to-day. Their picket-posts to our left of Fort Fisher have been connected in places, making a continuous breast-work. They are also engaged on what seems to be a fort on Boisseau's property.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Nothing new along our lines. The enemy still at work on different parts of their line, also extending their line of chevaux-de-frise in front of their picket-line. A deserter from the Thirty-fifth North Carolina came in during the night.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 16, 1864—9.35 a. m.

General J. G. PARKE,
Commanding Ninth Corps:

The commanding general will be at your headquarters at 2 p. m. to-day to present the medals.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
Jones' House, Va., December 16, 1864.

Lieut. Col. P. M. LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Ninth Army Corps:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report that the following-named men will be present at 2 o'clock this p. m. at headquarters Ninth Army Corps to receive medals of honor awarded them: Corpl. Patrick Monaghan, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers; Sergt. Leander A. Wilkins, Company H, Ninth New Hampshire Volunteers. The following-named are absent, accounted for by remarks opposite their respective names: Corpl. Franklin Hogan, Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, mustered out of service by expiration of term of service. He resides at Howard, Centre County, Pa. Private Robert Reid, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers, mustered out by expiration of term of enlistment. He resides at Pottsville, Schuylkill County, Pa. Private Henry W. Rowe, Company I, Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers, was wounded in action July 30, 1864, and is now in Douglas U. S. Hospital, Washington, D. C.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT B. POTTER,
Brevet Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 16, 1864—5.50 p. m.*

Major-General ORD,
Commanding Army of the James:

If you think there is any serious cause for concern on your Bermuda front, about 1,000 men from General Benham's command can be sent there temporarily.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 16, 1864.

General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

On account of interests there and the force being so much less than I supposed, I do deem it important to have the force which you propose sent there as soon as may be.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS,
December 16, 1864. (Received 7.35 p. m.)

Major-General TERRY:

Major-General Ord directs me to say he expects that the order for the occupation of the valley redoubt and the breast-works to the left of Camp Holly redoubt and the movement of the regiment to that point to be executed without delay.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864. (Received 9.10 p. m.)

General TURNER:

I hardly understand your last telegraphic dispatch. You say General Ord expects the regiment to move at once, but all the changes of troops on the right which he directed have been made, except that the camp of the troops which are to hold the redoubt on the flat has not yet been moved and the guns have not yet been put into it, because those expected to complete the batteries have not arrived. There is, however, at the low redoubt a force sufficient to hold it until other troops can get there. The Eighty-ninth New York, the other regiment which was to be moved, had already taken up its new position this afternoon, when I met General Ord, and I so reported to him. The order for the rifle-pit was given to General Jourdan by Major Michie. I had no instructions about it until this morning. When I got your telegraph to hurry up Jourdan, I did so.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864—9.15 p. m.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH:

I directed Foster to send over men to relieve that portion of the Two hundred and sixth Pennsylvania which is at Bermuda, but this afternoon I found that he had directed Plaisted to send the men, and Plaisted had selected another part of the same regiment. Therefore I have delayed the movement. You suggested sending men whose time is out, but I have only about fifty of such. Plaisted tells me that the portion of the Two hundred and sixth here is well drilled and instructed, and has experienced officers, and he is anxious to send a detail from it. If that will not do I shall have to send the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts. Please answer.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
December 16, 1864. (Received 9.30 p. m.)

Brevet Major-General TERRY, *Comdg. Twenty-fourth Army Corps:*

It is left to your discretion to send such troops as you think best to relieve the detachment at Bermuda. It must be borne in mind that the officer sent in command will have charge of the distribution of recruits for this army, and should be a particularly reliable man.

By order of Major-General Ord:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 16, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH:

In view of the consideration which you suggest in your dispatch, I think it would be best to send the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts to Bermuda. Major Ordway, who now commands that regiment, is one of the best officers in the Army of the James, and will, I am sure, make a great improvement in the manner of distributing recruits.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., CAV. DIV., ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 16, 1864.

ACTING ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL,
Headquarters Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has occurred on the picket-line of this brigade during the three days, December 13 to 16, beyond the occurrences of the 15th, mentioned in my report of that day. The enemy having then posted themselves in the breast-works on the left, across the Darbytown road, captured one of the pickets on its advance in the morning, and in the skirmish that followed wounded two horses, but shortly after, the rebels having retired to the edge of the wood, our line was re-established in its original position.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. W. EVANS,
Colonel First Maryland Cavalry, Commanding Brigade.

BURLINGTON, N. J., *December 17, 1864—1.30 p. m.*
(Received 3.30 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I leave here at 8 p. m. to-day for City Point, via Washington.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, *December 17, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

The great battle between the U. S. forces under Major-General Thomas and the rebel army under General Hood, before Nashville, resulted yesterday in a great and decisive victory for the Union arms. The rebel army has been broken and routed, a large portion of its artillery and great numbers of prisoners captured. This triumph has been achieved with small loss to our army. General Thomas reports that his loss has been very small, probably not exceeding 300, and very few killed.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 17, 1864—6.30 p. m. (Sent 6.40 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I congratulate the President, yourself, and the country on the glorious victory achieved by Major-General Thomas and the troops under his command. I have directed a salute of 100 guns to be fired to-morrow at sunrise in honor of this brilliant triumph.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 17, 1864—11.15 a. m. (Sent 11.30 a. m.)

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

There is nothing of importance to communicate. A deserter from Mahone's division came in yesterday. From his report the division has returned to its old position in reserve. This accounts for the whole of Hill's corps and proves its return to the lines around Petersburg. I have just received a telegram from Major-General Ord announcing the passage of troops by rail toward Petersburg. I infer from this General Ord no longer anticipates offensive movements on his lines. Have you any idea when the lieutenant-general may be expected back?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 17, 1864.*

Major-General MEADE:

General Grant telegraphs from Washington that he will be absent until Monday next.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 17, 1864. (Received 11 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

Signal officer reports at 9.30 this a. m. a regular train of thirteen cars, heavily loaded with troops, passed Port Walthall toward Petersburg.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 17, 1864—11.15 a. m. (Sent 11.29 a. m.)

Major-General ORD:

Your telegram reporting movements of troops by rail toward Petersburg received. I, last night, on being informed by Brigadier-General Rawlins that you were concerned for your Burmuda Hundred front, [replied] that Brigadier-General Benham had an available force of some

2,000 men in the lines in front of City Point, who could be sent to your support in case of emergency. They are the nearest of my command to you, being only about a mile from the Broadway bridge. General Benham will be instructed to answer your call.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Deserter from Jeff. Davis (cavalry) Legion, Young's brigade, Butler's division, reports that he left vedette post near the Cummings house on the Vaughan road about 10 o'clock this a. m.; left his brigade yesterday morning two miles from Stony Creek; that his brigade and all the cavalry except Chambliss' brigade had orders to move camp this a. m. to near Belfield in order to be near a depot for forage; cannot say that the cavalry moved this a. m., but is positive it had orders; that Pegram's and Gordon's divisions are erecting winter quarters one mile southwest of Burgess' Mill, west of Boydton plank road; that all of A. P. Hill's corps returned to its former position. Deserters from Heth's division, MacRae's brigade, report no changes on his line. Deserters from Scales' brigade, Wilcox's division, report no changes on Wilcox's front. Deserters from Wallace's brigade, Johnson's division, report no changes on Johnson's front. Five deserters received to-day.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 17, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Capt. JOHN MCENTEE,
City Point:

Deserters report Pegram's and Gordon's divisions building winter quarters one mile southwest of Burgess' Mill, near Hatcher's Run and west of the Boydton plank road. All three divisions of A. P. Hill in same position as prior to the late move to Belfield. Johnson's division in its old position on left, extending to the Appomattox. All the cavalry except Chambliss' brigade went to Belfield this a. m., where they are going into winter quarters, the destruction of the railroad preventing the transportation of forage to their present camps.

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 17, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: At 9.10 a. m. about 300 infantry, preceded by ten or twelve wagons, moved into Petersburg from the direction of Richmond. The enemy uses the Richmond railroad to carry wood into Petersburg. A

fatigue party with picks and shovels came from the camps about one mile east of lead-works and disappeared in the rear of Fort Mahone. It numbered about 200.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 17, 1864—4 p. m.

Lieutenant DILLINGHAM:

All quiet this p. m. No change observed. The following was intercepted:

8.30.

Colonel B[RENT]:
All quiet this a. m. Steamer off Strahan's lower landing.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

STEUART'S FRONT—9.30 a. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:
Enemy still hauling abatis from the woods to our right of Battery A and unloading near Battery C. Yesterday p. m. two companies of infantry were drilling behind Battery A. No unusual activity observed this a. m.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

12.20 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:
One steamer just came up the river and stopped off Strahan's lower landing.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

STEUART'S FRONT—2.30 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:
No unusual activity observed during the day. The enemy still hauling abatis to new fort. Dredging machine still at work.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

3.30.

Major P.:
Evening report: There have passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, one train of fifteen box-cars and thirty-four wagons. Rear of same battery, going toward City Point, one train of ten box-cars and thirty wagons.

B. C.,
At D.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 17, 1864.

Colonel FISHER, *Chief Signal Officer:*

To-day small parties of men have been engaged in strengthening works on Boisseau's property. No movements noticed nor change in enemy's lines on this front.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 17, 1864.

Brigadier-General BENHAM,
Commanding Engineers:

The commanding general directs that you hold the infantry under your command in readiness to move to Bermuda Hundred in case of being called upon so to do by Major-General Ord, commanding Army of the James.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *December 17, 1864—12.15 p. m.*

General S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your dispatch of to-day. I was last night ordered from headquarters Armies of the United States to send 1,000 men to report to General Ferrero, commanding Defenses Bermuda Hundred. I sent all my men, except the Sixty-first Massachusetts, guarding Bailey's Creek, and 500 engineers.

H. W. BENHAM,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 17, 1864. (Received 9.30 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of my command since last report and nothing of interest has occurred. Three deserters came into our lines last evening and have been forwarded.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 17, 1864—6.40 p. m. (Received 6.50 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The general officer of the day reports to me that the deserter from the cavalry who came into our lines near the Weldon railroad stated that there were some three scouts in a house about half a mile outside of our picket-line near that road. The general officer of the day proposes to capture them to-night. Is there any objection to it?

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 17, 1864—7 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

The commanding general will be glad if you will have the three scouts alluded to in your dispatch of 6.40 p. m. captured to-night.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: In accordance with paragraph 8, Special Orders No. 338, current series, headquarters Army of the Potomac, I have to report the following-named officers recently brevetted and now holding commands equal to their brevet rank:

Artillery Brigade: Bvt. Lieut. Col. John G. Hazard, major First Rhode Island Artillery, commanding Artillery Brigade, Second Army Corps; Bvt. Capt. John W. Roder, first lieutenant Fourth U. S. Artillery, commanding Battery K, Fourth Artillery; Bvt. First Lieut. William B. Beck, second lieutenant, Fifth Artillery, commanding Batteries C and I, Fifth U. S. Artillery.

First Division: Bvt. Maj. Gen. N. A. Miles, commanding First Division, Second Army Corps; Bvt. Brig. Gen. George N. Macy, colonel Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding First Brigade, First Division, Second Army Corps; Bvt. Maj. Silas J. Marlin, captain One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, division inspector, First Division; Bvt. Capt. John D. Black, first lieutenant, One hundred and forty-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, acting aide-de-camp to Brevet Major-General Miles, commanding First Division.

Second Division: Bvt. Maj. J. C. Farwell, captain First Battalion Minnesota Volunteers, commanding the battalion; Bvt. Capt. Benjamin F. Conlin, first lieutenant, One hundred and fifty-fifth New York Volunteers, commanding Company F of his regiment.

Third Division: Bvt. Brig. Gen. Robert McAllister, colonel Eleventh New Jersey Volunteers, commanding Third Brigade, Third Division.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 17, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIFTH CORPS:

I have the honor herewith to transmit medals of honor which have been received from the War Department for Private Horace A. Ellis, Company A, Seventh Wisconsin Volunteers; Corpl. Francis A. Waller, Company I, Sixth Wisconsin Volunteers; Private James T. Jennings, Company K, Fifty-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers. The commanding general desires that you will cause these medals to be handed to the soldiers for whom they are designed, and their acknowledgment of the receipt of them to be forwarded to these headquarters.

Very respectfully, &c.,

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
December 17, 1864.

Maj. C. A. WHITTIER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Sixth Corps:

MAJOR: In forwarding the accompanying recommendations made by the commanders of the First, Second, and Third Brigades of this divis-

ion for brevet promotions in their respective commands, I have the honor to call the attention of the major-general commanding to the distinguished services of the brigade commanders, and to recommend the following promotions by brevet:

Col. William H. Penrose, Fifteenth New Jersey Volunteers, commanding First Brigade, to be brigadier-general of U. S. Volunteers by brevet for gallantry in battle of Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864, in which battle he was severely wounded. Col. Oliver Edwards, Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, commanding Third Brigade, to be brigadier-general U. S. Volunteers by brevet for gallantry and distinguished service in the battle of Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 12, 1864, and for meritorious conduct in the battle of Winchester, Va., September 19, 1864. Col. Joseph E. Hamblin, Sixty-fifth New York Volunteers, commanding Second Brigade, to be brigadier-general U. S. Volunteers by brevet for distinguished gallantry in the battle of Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864, in which battle he was twice wounded, but declined leaving the field until he was ordered to the rear. Col. Ranald S. Mackenzie, Second Connecticut Artillery, commanding Second Brigade, to be brigadier-general U. S. Volunteers by brevet for distinguished gallantry in the battles of Winchester, September 19, 1864; Fisher's Hill, September 22, 1864, and Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864, in which battle he was twice wounded, but declined leaving the field until he was ordered to the rear. Col. Isaac C. Bassett, Eighty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers, now commanding Third Brigade, to be brigadier-general U. S. Volunteers by brevet for gallantry and meritorious services in the battle of Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864, in which battle he was severely wounded. This officer led the assault at Fredericksburg Heights, May 3, 1863, and was wounded in that battle. Lieut. Col. Egbert Olcott, One hundred and twenty-first New York Volunteers, commanding Second Brigade at the battle of Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864, to be colonel by brevet for distinguished gallantry in that battle. This officer has been twice wounded. Lieut. Col. Edward L. Campbell, Fifteenth New Jersey Volunteers, commanding First Brigade at battle of Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864, to be colonel by brevet for distinguished gallantry in that battle, in which he was severely wounded. This officer also gallantly commanded the same brigade at the battle of Fisher's Hill, Va., September 22, 1864. Capt. Baldwin Hufty, Fourth New Jersey Volunteers, commanding First Brigade at the battle of Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864, to be major by brevet for meritorious conduct in that battle. One regiment of this division is now on detached service at Winchester, Va., and no recommendations for that regiment have been forwarded by the commander of the brigade to which it belongs, the Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, and I have the honor to make the following recommendations, as the facts referred to are personally known to me: Lieut. Col. George L. Montague, commanding Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, to be colonel by brevet for distinguished gallantry in the battle of Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 12, 1864, in which battle he was severely wounded. Capt. Mason W. Tyler, Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, to be major by brevet for distinguished gallantry in the battle of Winchester, Va., September 19, 1864, in which battle he was wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK WHEATON,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
December 17, 1864.

[Maj. C. A. WHITTIER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Sixth Corps:]

I have the honor to recommend for promotion by brevet, for distinguished gallantry during the battles of the campaign of 1864, the following-named officers of the division staff. With two exceptions they have all been wounded in action during the past campaign:

Maj. Rufus P. Lincoln, Thirty-seventh Massachusetts Volunteers, acting inspector-general, to be lieutenant-colonel by brevet for meritorious services in the battle of Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864. This officer was wounded in the battle of the Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864, and again severely wounded at the battle of Spotsylvania Court House, Va., May 12, 1864. Capt. Albert M. Tyler, One hundred and twenty-first New York Volunteers, to be major by brevet for meritorious services at the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Winchester, September 19, 1864, in which battle he was severely wounded, to date from May 6, 1864. Capt. Solomon W. Russell, jr., Forty-ninth New York Volunteers, to be major by brevet for meritorious services at the battles of Spotsylvania Court-House, Cold Harbor, before Petersburg, Va., Winchester, Va., and at the battle of Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864, when acting assistant adjutant-general of the division (this officer has been very severely wounded in battle), to date from May 12, 1864. Capt. John Snodgrass, One hundred and thirty-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers, aide-de-camp, to be major by brevet for distinguished gallantry in the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, before Petersburg, Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek, Va., to date from May 6, 1864. Capt. James W. Cronkite, One hundred and twenty-first New York Volunteers, to be major by brevet for meritorious services in the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, before Petersburg, Winchester, Va., Fisher's Hill, and at the battle of Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864 (this officer was twice wounded at the battle of Spotsylvania Court-House, May 10, 1864). Capt. George A. Bernard, Sixty-fifth New York Volunteers, aide-de-camp, to be major by brevet for distinguished gallantry in the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, June 1, 1864. Lieut. Henry E. Hindmarsh, Ninety-fifth Pennsylvania Volunteers, judge-advocate, to be captain by brevet for meritorious services in the battles of the Wilderness and at Spotsylvania Court-House, Va., May 12, 1864, where he was severely wounded, and for gallantry at the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864, to date from May 12, when he was wounded.

FRANK WHEATON,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 17, 1864. (Received 11.20 a. m.)

General WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Nothing unusual transpired along our line during the past twenty-four hours. Heavy cannonading last evening was caused by the enemy opening upon some of our people drilling on the plain near the Avery house.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIGADE, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 17, 1864.

Brevet Major-General HUNT,
Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac:

Enemy opened fire from one 8-inch gun from front of Fort Sedgwick, and two mortars in front of Fort Morton. A few shots were returned from our batteries.

JNO. C. TIDBALL,
Brevet Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The cavalry picket-line is established as directed. The left of the line of the Fifth Army Corps, with which I am required to connect, rests on the road leading from McCann's to Lee's Mill. The right of the cavalry line rests on Warwick Swamp, between this road and the plank road. Beginning at Warwick Swamp the line passes Davenport Church, crosses the Norfolk railroad at Baxter's, thence follows the City Point road to Mount Sinai Church, thence bears to the east and crosses the stage road near Green's, crosses the telegraph road at Bland's, and terminates at Bailey's Creek. There are strong reserves on the McCann's and Lee's Mill road, in rear of Davenport Church, on the road west of the Norfolk railroad, on the Quaker road, in rear of Mount Sinai Church, on the stage and telegraph roads, and at Prince George Court-House. The line is continuously covered by pickets, and is properly supported by reserves. Scouting parties are daily sent in front of the lines. It is possible that an occasional scout or guerrilla may be occasionally found within our lines. This cannot well be prevented in a densely wooded country, which mounted men cannot traverse in all directions. As regards the report of Capt. Philip Schuyler, Fourteenth Infantry, in charge of the provost-marshal-general's office, concerning the unsafety of a portion of the country within our lines, I would report that from the locality defined as that on which his party was attacked by five dismounted guerrillas I infer they were outside the cavalry line. A party of ten dismounted men, having only pistols, escorting three wagons, cannot expect to go out beyond our lines and be unmolested by the enemy, and an officer who would order such a foray is exceedingly culpable. A brigade of cavalry at Prince George Court-House would facilitate the picketing of the country toward the James River, as the details for picket duty would have much less distance to march. Prince George Court-House is in rear of the center of the cavalry picket-line, and is in all respects a good position for the entire division, save its comparative remoteness from the railroad, and the increased distance which would have to be traveled to reach the left of the main line of our army. I send a staff officer who will point out on a map the position of the cavalry picket-line and reserves.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Bvt. Maj. Gen., U. S. Vols., Comdg. Second Cavalry Division.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 17, 1864. (Received 2.40 p. m.)

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

A deserter just in says he was in Richmond yesterday and saw a wagon train of 75 or 100 wagons passing through the city. Heard a man say it was Early's wagons.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
December 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer on Crow's Nest tower reports:

The enemy are mounting another heavy gun on the eighth finished battery to their left of Cox's Ferry.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
December 17, 1864—10 a. m.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer on the Cobb's Hill tower reports—

That at 9.30 this a. m. a regular train of thirteen cars, heavily loaded with troops, passed Port Walthall Junction toward Petersburg.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
December 17, 1864—12.40 p. m.

Brig. Gen. J. W. TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer on Cobb's Hill tower reports that "at 12.30 p. m. a train of five cars, loaded with troops, passed Port Walthall Junction toward Petersburg;" also, "that the enemy have cut the timber in front of Mrs. Dunn's house (on the left of our line), disclosing a redoubt of three embrasures and two guns."

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer, Dept. of Va. and N. C.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 17, 1864.

Dear General ABBOT:

Your application for leave of absence has been returned from General Meade. He says I can send it up to General Grant. Let me know clearly if your whole regiment is reported to General Butler. Has it ever been assigned in orders to General Butler's army? I want to make as strong a statement as possible to General Grant to get the train assigned regularly to this army and work it in with the general reorganization of the artillery. Send me a note back with this, with all the data which will give me a good showing in your case.

Truly, yours,

H. J. HUNT.

HDQRS. U. S. FORCES, EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA,
Eastville, Va., December 17, 1864.

Maj. W. HOFFMAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have not yet forwarded Company A, Purnell [Maryland] Cavalry, to Norfolk, for the reason that if I relieve them before any troops arrive to take their place I shall be obliged to leave entirely unguarded some forty miles of the telegraph here. I am anxious that they should be relieved, but hope that no colored cavalry will be sent here. In carrying out General Orders, No. 46, headquarters Department of Virginia and North Carolina, I have much trouble with the negro population of this shore, and should colored cavalry come here its execution would be almost impossible. The cavalry here must be also detached, under the command of non-commissioned officers, along the shore, and I could not place colored non-commissioned officers in charge of the ports of this district.

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK J. WHITE,
Lieut. Col., Comdg. U. S. Forces, Eastern Shore of Virginia.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN VIRGINIA,
Norfolk, Va., December 18, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded to headquarters of the department with the request that a squadron of cavalry may be sent at once to relieve the Purnell Cavalry. The Third New York Cavalry, recently reported to me, number fewer men than the Twentieth New York, relieved, and I have no troops to send to the Eastern Shore.

G. F. SHEPLEY,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 18, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

In my opinion no general order should be issued which would authorize subordinate military commanders to invade a foreign country with which we are at peace at their discretion. If such officer should pursue marauders fitted out in Canada to depredate upon our frontier, it should

be the act of the officer himself, to be justified or condemned afterward upon the merits of the case. In all instances where too much delay would not ensue, they should wait for the authority of the commanding general of the department, at least, and then his action should be reported through the proper channel to the President at once.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 18, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following deserters have been forwarded to-day: One from Fourteenth South Carolina, McGowan's brigade; one from Forty-ninth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade; one from Thirty-fifth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade. No important information elicited. Deserter from Thirty-fifth North Carolina reports that he heard Savannah had been taken by Sherman; it was so believed and reported last evening by the officers of his regiment. No particulars.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 18, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant DILLINGHAM:

All quiet this a. m. No change observed. At 4.10 p. m. yesterday the following was intercepted:

Colonel B[RENT]:

A working party is engaged loading lumber at Strahan's upper landing.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 18, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Col. B. F. FISHER:

At 9 a. m. 150 men moved toward our left from vicinity of large fort. All quiet.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
December 18, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Col. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

No change observed in the enemy's lines on this front to-day. The smoke of an engine seen moving west in rear of lead-works. No wagons seen moving.

GEO. W. OAKES,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 18, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant, Signal Corps, Army of the Potomac:

All quiet this p. m. At 3.30 p. m. a smoke was observed in rear of Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, supposed to proceed from a train of cars on new road. The following has been intercepted:

11.30 A. M.

Colonel B.:

From Steuart's front: "All quiet."

From Dunn's: "The enemy are building more winter quarters at Point of Rocks. Gun-boat in same position."

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

No message has been sent from D. yesterday p. m. or to-day.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

No changes observed in the enemy's lines this p. m

JUDSON.

All quiet.

JORDAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 18, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER:

4 P. M.

Engine run out on Weldon [railroad] this p. m. All quiet.

JORDAN.

4.15 P. M.

All quiet; nothing new in front of this station this p. m.

5 P. M.

All quiet this p. m. No change observed during the day. The following have been intercepted:

"9 A. M.

"Colonel B[RENT]:

"A steamer just went down the river; no troops on board.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"STEUART'S FRONT—10.40 a. m.

"Colonel B[RENT]:

"Yesterday evening two regiments of infantry were drilling in field behind new battery on north side; very few wagons were seen. The enemy continues to work on abatis and now have it completed from our right up to new battery toward Battery A. Considerable picket-firing in our front last night. No artillery engaged. Considerable firing this a. m.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"11.30 A. M.

"Colonel B[RENT]:

"A squad of about twenty-five infantry just passed Broadway going toward City Point.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"12 M.

"Major P.:

"A train of ten box-cars just passed rear of Battery 5 going toward enemy's left.

"B. C.,
"*At D.*"

"STEUART'S FRONT—2.20 p. m.

"Colonel B[RENT]:

"Some sharpshooting in this front. A train of twenty-five wagons just passed up the river.

"From Dunn's: All quiet. A steamer just came up the river and stopped at Strahan's lower landing.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

H. W. HOLMAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 18, 1864. (Received 9.45 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes have taken place since last report. Two enlisted men of the Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers deserted to the enemy during the night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 274. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS, *December 18, 1864.*

1. Maj. William R. Driver, assistant adjutant-general, U. S. Volunteers, having reported for duty, is announced as assistant adjutant-general of this division.

By command of Brevet Major-General Mott:

J. P. FINKELMEIER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 18, 1864. (Received 11.17 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing of importance to report for the twenty-four hours ending at 9 o'clock this a. m. The First Brigade, Second Division, which escorted the corps transportation from the Valley to Washington, arrived on the 16th and has been placed in camp nearly in rear of Fort Keene.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. FIRST BRIGADE, SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 18, 1864.

Capt. A. H. BIBBER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Cavalry Division:

CAPTAIN: Pursuant to instructions received last evening, I have the honor to forward the following report:

I have to-day sent out scouting parties in the rear and on the flanks of my pickets and reserves, and have found no enemy and no trace of the existence of any within my lines. A force of the Tenth New York Cavalry also patrolled by the stage road to Sycamore Church, returning by the telegraph road, and found nothing. The country within my lines I consider perfectly safe and free from the presence of guerrillas. No better proof of this can be had than that I communicate by a single orderly at all hours of the day and night with my main reserve at Prince George Court-House, and that from there to all points of the picket-line communication is free and uninterrupted. Until within a few days past there have been no cavalry pickets out, which would no doubt encourage guerrillas to approach our lines. Since the regular line was re-established I have heard of none of the enemy being within my lines, with the exception of two, the most daring and enterprising of the enemy's scouts in this part of the country. These men, a month ago, after some trouble, were captured by some of my scouting parties, and after being turned over to the provost-marshal's department succeeded in lately effecting their escape from City Point, and I fear will give much trouble, as they have been all through our lines, and must be now well informed of our positions. I would add, in closing this, that under the orders I have received, directing me to "watch the main avenues of approach only," I had not considered that I should be held responsible for the presence of one or two straggling bushwhackers within the lines. I have and do picket in such a manner as to avoid this, however, and I ride anywhere throughout my lines with a single orderly, feeling myself perfectly secure.

Respectfully,

H. E. DAVIES, JR.,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS,
Chief of Staff:

Corps, division, and brigade commanders are complaining bitterly that they can't get shoes or clothing for their men, though repeatedly applied for at City Point. I have several hundred men barefoot or supplied by sutlers. Is there no immediate remedy?

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 170. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, Va., December 18, 1864.

A great victory has been gained. The enemy in front of Nashville were attacked in their intrenchments, and, by the blessing of God and

the ardor of our troops, driven at all points. On several portions of their line all their men and all their guns were captured. Three cheers for General Thomas' army!

By command of Major-General Ord:

ED. W. SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 18, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER.
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: Private Hiram P. Flagler, First New York Mounted Rifles, captured on the Darbytown road on the 13th of October, made his escape about two weeks ago from Libby Prison and made his way down to Williamsburg. He reports that he met on his way thirteen bounty-jumpers, who were making their way by the White House toward the Potomac. They confessed to him that they were bounty-jumpers, and that it was a regular business with them. Some said they had jumped five or six times, and intended to keep it up. They knew the country and the inhabitants, and rebel authorities recognize it, and direct every facility to be shown them to make their way through. I communicate this for the general's information.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General and Brevet Major-General.

NEW BERNE, *December 18, 1864.*

Capt. A. L. FITCH,
Thirteenth New York Artillery, Morehead City:

Captain Macomb, senior naval officer up the Roanoke, reports that he is clearing out the torpedoes from the river as fast as possible, and that he is slowly moving up toward Rainbow Bluff. More troops have been sent up, and as soon as the naval and military force can co-operate they will take a fresh start. Colonel Hinton and some forty other prisoners were captured a few days since by Colonel Frankle. General Wild left here on the 16th, expecting to see General Butler very soon to explain matters to him. I shall keep the telegraph operator at Morehead advised of all late and important news, and he will probably find a way of sending to you. Savannah is supposed to be in possession of Sherman, but dates of the 15th are not positive about it.

I. N. PALMER,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 19, 1864—11.25 a. m.

Brigadier-General RAWLINS:

Major-General Humphreys reports the enemy made a slight demonstration on his picket-line at 2.30 a. m. this day, resulting in the loss of one killed; one wounded, and three missing. The line was immediately re-established and quiet soon restored. Nothing else has occurred along the lines. Have you any idea about what time the lieutenant-general may be expected to arrive to-day?

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 19, 1864.*
(Received 11.40 a. m.)

Major-General MEADE:

The lieutenant-general left Washington yesterday at 3 p. m., and he should be here before 3 to-day.

JNO. A. RAWLINS,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Scouts from Richmond report, via City Point, that on Friday and Saturday of last week Rodes' division, of Early's command, passed through Richmond on the way to Petersburg; cannot say that it is destined for Petersburg or farther south; also that Jeff. Davis is very sick, and was not expected to live. Early has still left in the Valley Wharton's division (Breckinridge's old), and Rosser's and Imboden's cavalry. Two refugees from Petersburg that came into the lines of the Ninth Army Corps, near Battery No. 1, last night, report that a division of infantry passed over the Richmond and Petersburg Railroad to Petersburg on Friday last; cannot say that it went farther south than Petersburg; also report that Jeff. Davis died on Saturday evening last at his residence in Richmond. This was currently reported in Petersburg yesterday, and generally believed. No news from Savannah, except a report that it had been occupied by Sherman.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 19, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The Church road signal station reports that at 4 p. m. a column of infantry, showing five colors and occupying ten minutes in passing a point, moved westward on the Boydton plank road. They were seen 30 degrees west of north from this station. A small working party engaged near lead-works; otherwise no changes.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
December 19, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Col. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, U. S. Army:

No change observed in the enemy's lines on this front this day. A small working party seen strengthening old works near lead-works.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 301. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, December 19, 1864.*

Every officer and soldier capable of duty is wanted in the field; and if not on duty, they are ordered to their respective organizations. All provost-marshals and boards of enrollment are instructed to employ the most diligent exertions in forwarding soldiers to the front, and arresting deserters, shirkers, and all fit for duty who are absent without proper authority. Surgeons in charge of hospitals are directed to send forward all who are fit for service, taking care, however, not to expose any who are unfit. Recruiting officers are enjoined to diligence, and those who are found guilty of neglect or useless the Adjutant-General is directed to recall immediately and send to their commands. Every effort must be put forth to fill up the ranks, strengthen the armies, and aid the patriotic and gallant troops now smiting the reeling enemy with victorious blows.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 343. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *December 19, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

8. Corps and other independent commanders will cause the roads leading to their camps from the principal depots along the railroads to be put in good order with as little delay as practicable and kept in repair.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND CORPS,
December 19, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No change in the disposition of this command since last report. Enemy made slight demonstration on the right of First Division picket-line at 2.30 this morning, resulting in one man killed, one wounded, and three or four missing. The line was re-established at once. One man of the First Division deserted to the enemy last evening.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 323. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS, *In Camp before Petersburg, Va., December 19, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

3. The commanding officer Second Division will, without delay, take measures to put the Vaughan road in good order from the Church road to and including the crossing of the small stream in front of his troops near the J. Davis house.

4. The commanding officer Third Division will, without delay, take measures to make a good road from the Vaughan road near Fort Clarke to his command.

* * * * * * *

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH NEW YORK ARTILLERY,
Camp in the Field, December 19, 1864.

Captain BLACK,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General, First Div., Second Corps:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit a report herewith of my tour of duty as division officer of the day for December 18 and 19. The first thing noticeable was the desertion of Private Daniel McCarthy, Company E, Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers, to the enemy. Said McCarthy was one of the reserve, and was engaged at the time in carrying wood to the posts. About 8.30 p. m., 18th instant, Private Babcock, Company D, One hundred and twenty-fifth New York Volunteers, was arrested between the outer abatis and picket-line, and was sent under guard to brigade headquarters Fourth Brigade. The usual quiet prevailed along the line until about 2.30 a. m., 19th instant, when a body of the enemy (in my estimation not exceeding fifty men) under cover of the extreme darkness and a heavy fog, crept close to the line of vedette posts without an alarm and made a vigorous attack, capturing the following named, all from the Eighty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers: Private Charles Boyington, Company F, Post 1; Corporal Hurley, Company F, on Post 2 or 3; Privates Joseph Garland, William A. Barnes, and Jeremiah Fisher, Company B, Post 4, and Corpl. James H. Hannuss, Privates Frank Eisele, James Conley, August Butler, Company I, Post 5; Corporal Gillvary, Private John C. Collins, Company C, Post 7, and killed, Private John Pratt, Company B, Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers, at guard at the house near the right of the First Division line. The arms of nine of the captured men were secured from capture. A number of shots were exchanged, and the enemy retreated to their own lines. I could observe no further injuries than the cases above cited. The line was immediately re-established. I would further submit that I observed no want of vigilance on the part of officers or men; but, in my opinion, had the men displayed more firmness, the enemy would have been checked before reaching the posts.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. L. ANABLE,
Major Seventh New York Artillery, Division Officer of the Day.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 19, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that a slight demonstration was made on the right of my line at 2.30 o'clock this morning, resulting in

one man being killed, one wounded, and three or four missing; the exact number is not known, as some are known to have gone to the rear. The line was re-established at once. All quiet during the remainder of the night.

I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS,
No. 94. } *December 19, 1864.*

The following-named regiments having each been reported as in the best order in their respective brigades, will be excused from all picket, fatigue, and other outside details for one week from this date: Twentieth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, First Brigade; Sixty-ninth Regiment New York National Guard, Second Brigade; One hundred and eighth Regiment New York Volunteers, Third Brigade.

In place of having company inspection as usual on Wednesday next, these regiments will parade at 11 a. m. on that day in front of Fort Clarke for inspection by the major-general commanding division, who will determine which of these three regiments is in the best order. The following-named regiments have been reported as in worst order in their respective brigades: One hundred and eighty-fourth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, First Brigade; Eighth Regiment New York Heavy Artillery, Second Brigade; Seventh Regiment West Virginia Volunteers, Third Brigade.

No leave of absence or furloughs from these regiments will be favorably considered at these headquarters for the present. At every inspection hereafter each company commander will select the cleanest man, non-commissioned officer or private, in his company. From these will be selected, by the regimental commander, the one best in order, who will be sent to brigade headquarters. Each brigade commander will select from the men sent to him the neatest and most soldierly one, who will be sent, under charge of his company commander, to these headquarters at 5 p. m. on the day of inspection. The three men thus sent will be fully armed and equipped for service.

By order of Major-General Gibbon:

JNO. M. NORVELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 19, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that I have to-day moved my headquarters to a position in front of Fort Clarke.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. MOTT,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 19, 1864. (Received 10.15 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired during the past twenty-four hours.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 19, 1864. (Received 11.30 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual along our lines. One deserter from Pickett's division provost guard and two refugees came in last night, one engineer, Richmond and Petersburg Railroad, and a banker from Petersburg. They are very intelligent and seem to tell very correct stories. The engineer knows all the localities along the line of railroad leading into Petersburg, and I deem it very important that Major Brooker, First Connecticut Artillery, Battery 4, should question him so as to learn the probable effect of our firing upon the railway and bridge. They have a rumor that Savannah has fallen and that Jeff. Davis is dead.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 19, 1864.

General GEORGE G. MEADE:

I have no reports as yet, but as there is no musketry I think it is nothing more than the ordinary artillery duel. As soon as I hear anything definite will report.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 19, 1864—6.55 p. m.

General MEADE,
City Point:

The firing began on the right and was taken up along the line, extending to Fort Sedgwick, the enemy appearing to be very spiteful, opening from most, if not all their batteries. No cause has yet been reported.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. PICKET RESERVE, FOURTH PENNSYLVANIA CAV.,
December 19, 1864.

Capt. J. B. MAITLAND,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Brigade:

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to report all quiet on my lines. I sent a squadron, as directed, this morning at 8 a. m. on the road turning to

the left near Second Swamp and passed along two miles in front of our line to the Loyd road. The officer in command of the squadron reports a bridge half a mile below the Two Bridges on Blackwater Swamp, which I have ordered to be destroyed. He also reports no enemy in our front, and could gain no information that there had been lately. No safeguards were found where the people had not taken the oath of allegiance. The citizens report that General Hampton has withdrawn all his scouts from this vicinity.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. B. MAYS,
Major, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 20, 1864—12.30 p. m.*
(Received 2.30 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff:

I wish you would order one of the inspectors-general to report to me for special duty. I want to get in an official form some facts that I have learned in regard to arbitrary arrests and punishment by the commander of the Department of North Carolina and Virginia.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 20, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

I think Colonel Schriver, now with General Meade, the very best man in the army for the purpose indicated. He is polite, and at the same time thorough. If he will not answer I would suggest acting inspector-general, General Ketchum, if the Secretary of War can spare him. I will await your answer.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Eighteen deserters from the enemy have been received to-day from the following commands: Two from Holcombe Legion, Wallace's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Twenty-second North Carolina, Wallace's brigade, Johnson's division; four from Thirty-fourth Virginia, Wise's brigade, Johnson's division; three from Thirty-fifth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Fifty-sixth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division; two from Martin's battery, Johnson's division; three from First Tennessee, Archer's brigade, Heth's division; one from Fourteenth Tennessee, Archer's brigade, Heth's division; one from Tenth Florida, Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division. No change reported on the enemy's line.

Early's two divisions (Gordon's and Pegram's) passed south on the Boydton plank road directly after the return of Hill's corps, but none of informants can locate them. No intelligence whatever from Rodes' division, lately reported to have arrived from the Valley. The rumored death of Jeff. Davis was contradicted by yesterday's Richmond papers. He was reported to be very low, though hopes were entertained of his recovery. No official news from Savannah; report in camp it had been taken.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 20, 1864—9 a. m.

Lieutenant DILLINGHAM:

All quiet this a. m. No change observed. The following were intercepted yesterday evening:

4.30 P. M.

Major P.:

Report there have passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, three trains, one of fifteen box-cars, one of twelve box-cars and three flats, and one of seven box-cars and five flats; three of the box-cars crowded with troops on top, and the remainder had a few troops on top, and twenty-three wagons; rear of same battery, going toward City Point, two trains, one of five box and one of four box-cars and twenty-five wagons.

B. C.,
At D.

4.45.

Major P.:

One train of four coaches and ten flats, crowded with troops, just passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left.

B. C.,
At D.

H. W. HOLMAN.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to forward the following message from the signal station near the Friend house:

A train of cars ran into Petersburg last evening loaded with wood. Two hundred infantry moved into Petersburg on Richmond pike this a. m.

The Avery house station reports at 9.30 a. m.:

A train of twenty-four box-cars passed to the left over the South Side Railroad at 7.30 a. m. No change in enemy's line this a. m.

The station at the Walthall house reports all quiet this a. m.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
Acting Chief Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 20, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Col. B. F. FISHER:

Two hundred infantry moved toward our left on the Vaughan road at 9.20 a. m., coming from camps west of large fort. Small working parties between lead-works and large fort.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: No changes of any moment to report. Small party at work on rear line to the right of Fort Mahone. An unusual number of wagons passing during the day in both directions on Richmond pike. The enemy is placing abatis around a fort to the rear of Fort Clifton. The accompanying intercepted messages are respectfully forwarded.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 20, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of this command, and nothing of interest transpired since last report.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 20, 1864.

Maj. SEPTIMUS CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Army Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to respectfully recommend Maj. George Hogg, Capt. G. A. Armes, and Capt. O. T. Bliss, all of the Second New York [Heavy Artillery] Volunteers, for a brevet rank one grade higher than that now held by them. On the morning of the 9th instant, when this division was ordered to force the crossing of Hatcher's Run, and after several attempts had been made by the cavalry and skirmishers to cross, Captain Armes was ordered to charge the ford with two companies, supported by Captain Bliss with four companies, followed by the remainder of the regiment. The stream was between four and five feet deep and obstructed by fallen trees; the enemy occupying a rifle-pit upon the opposite bank; the weather extremely cold. The charge was made and the enemy driven from his position. Major Hogg was the first to reach the opposite shore, followed by the other officers named, the men crossing in single file up to their shoulders in water. Although the operation was not one of great importance, it had a very advanta-

geous effect in this division, viz, it proved that any position, however difficult, could be carried by determined men if led by brave officers, and I make these recommendations as a reward and example to meritorious field and line officers.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

NELSON A. MILES,
Brevet Major-General of Volunteers, Commanding Division.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 276. } HDQRS. THIRD DIV., 2D ARMY CORPS, *December 20, 1864.*

1. During the temporary absence of the brevet major-general, Brig. Gen. R. de Trobriand will assume command of this division.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brig. Gen. R. de Trobriand:

WM. R. DRIVER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 20, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have sent up approval for leave of absence of several general officers, and I do it with the fullest regard to what I consider the interest of the service. We acknowledge the necessity of our commands by announcing victories with all the power of words and shotted salutes, and I believe the granting of all the leaves of absence we can has equally good effect. We have at the present a full number of general officers and can, I think, spare some of them no matter what may occur. General Griffin contemplates bringing Mrs. Griffin with him to the army this winter, as soon as he may be allowed, and will consequently be here on duty and well satisfied. If General Ayres is granted his leave now he too will be back in the midwinter. At this time, if circumstances will permit it, I would like to go home for a while with my brother to attend at my sister's wedding. General Crawford would like to go about the same time, so that if some of the leaves can be granted now the corps will never be without as good and competent generals as there are in it present for duty, and all will feel renewed for the next campaign. I mention these points to favor the granting of all the leaves of absence applied for.

Respectfully,

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 20, 1864. (Sent 12.55 p. m.)

General G. K. WARREN,
Commanding Fifth Corps:

The commanding general desires to see you at his headquarters at your earliest convenience.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 20, 1864.

General WILLIAMS:

Dispatch received 1.20 p. m. Will come up immediately.

G. K. WARREN,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 20, 1864. (Received 10.25 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Nothing of importance has transpired on the lines of this corps during the preceding twenty-four hours. Three batteries of the Fifth Corps were relieved from Forts Urmston and Conahey, and Batteries 24, 25, and 26, by the same number of batteries of this corps.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIGADE, SECOND CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 20, 1864.

Capt. A. H. BIBBER, *Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

CAPTAIN: I have the honor to submit the following report from the picket:

I sent a scouting party of thirty men down the Lee's Mill road toward Proctor's on the plank road this morning at 9 a. m. About 300 yards beyond the first house this side of the plank road they found a party of rebs, numbering twenty-five or thirty, drawn up in line in the woods. Some distance to the right, six miles and a half or so, was some smoke and a few men, a reserve being apparently placed there. A mounted man, probably a vedette, was seen near the first house to the right on the plank road. No vedettes were seen on the Lee's Mill road. Lieutenant Russell saw the same number at or near the same place yesterday, with a flag some distance to the rear. Does not think it was a headquarters flag; was apparently an old one, square; could distinguish no colors on it. He also thought from the action of the men that there was a reserve near. Ten or twenty rebels followed the returning scout a little way, but manifested no disposition to interfere with it. Did not follow but a short distance and with a good interval. Last night a few mounted men felt of the lines a little, but soon retired.

J. P. CILLEY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Pickets.

Respectfully submitted.

C. H. SMITH,
Brevet Brigadier-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Brigade.

OFF BEAUFORT,
December 20, 1864—9.30 a. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Have done nothing. Been waiting for navy and weather. Have sent full report by mail.

B. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

OFF BEAUFORT, N. C., *December 20, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *Commanding, &c., City Point:*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that the troops under the command of Major-General Weitzel left Fortress Monroe, as I informed you, on Wednesday, the 14th, and got off Cape Henry at 4 p. m., and arrived

the next afternoon at the place of rendezvous designated by Rear-Admiral Porter. Admiral Porter left with the naval squadron the day previous and as soon as possible after the storm. Fearing lest the enemy might be informed of our movements and guess our destination, I sent the transport fleet up the Potomac as far as Mathias Point, about fifty miles, in the daytime, so timing the sailing that they should arrive there after dark, and then during the night retrace their course and get off the Eastern Shore, near Cape Charles, by daylight. This was cleverly done. The enemy's scouts on the Northern Neck, where, I see by the Richmond papers, they watch the movements of troops on the Potomac, saw the fleet go up but did not see it return, so that when I left it was reported in Norfolk that the fleet had gone up the Potomac. We were exceedingly fortunate in our weather, and lay off New Inlet Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, in very smooth water and pleasant weather. The admiral arrived on Sunday evening from Beaufort, having been detained there from Wednesday night, for reasons presumed to be satisfactory. Sunday night the wind freshened so that it would be impossible to land troops on the outside near Fort Fisher. The admiral was desirous to explode the torpedo-vessel that night at 10 o'clock and attack the next morning with the fleet, although we might not be able to land. I sent General Weitzel with Lieutenant-Colonel Comstock, who agreed with me in opinion that as the navy did not propose to run by the fort into the river, whatever might be the effect of the explosion, it would be useless, unless the troops could be landed, to seize the point, and it would specially be inexpedient to explode the torpedo at that hour, giving eight hours for the enemy to repair damages before the attack even by the fleet was made. The admiral, upon these representations, countermanded his orders, which had been given for the explosion, and we have waited until now for a smooth sea; meantime I have sent my transports into Beaufort to coal and water, as our ten days' supply is nearly exhausted. Last evening I received a telegram from the admiral, by signal, saying that the sea was so rough that it would not be possible to land this morning, whereupon I steamed to this port, where I am coaling my ship, and shall return this afternoon. All the troops are well and comfortable, in good spirits, and so far without casualty. I am sorry to say the weather does not now look favorable. I take leave to congratulate you upon General Thomas' victory, which is very gratifying. We have no news from General Sherman later than what is brought by the Northern papers. The expedition up the Roanoke has been delayed by torpedoes, but I get news from General Palmer that the torpedoes are being cleaned out and that the movement is still going on.

Very respectfully, yours,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 20, 1864.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. V. KAUTZ,
Commanding Cavalry Division, Army of the James:

GENERAL: The great number of desertions that we are now having from this army makes it necessary to exercise unusual vigilance and precaution to stop it. The major-general commanding directs, therefore, that you instruct your officers and men on outpost and picket

duty to use their utmost endeavor to arrest all whom they may see trying to desert, if necessary to pursue and shoot them down. You will also inform your men that for every deserter apprehended a reward of $30 and a month's furlough will be granted to the soldier making the arrest.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

NORFOLK, *December 20, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH:

I have the honor to report that we failed to surprise the enemy on Rainbow Bluff. They were re-enforced in season from Weldon. The navy could not help us on account of the multitude of torpedoes. They are still working their way up the river.

Very respectfully,

E. A. WILD,
Brigadier-General.

NEW BERNE, *December 20, 1864.*

Brig. Gen. I. N. PALMER:

I have just received a dispatch from Colonel Frankle, dated the 19th. He reports himself as ready to move in twenty-four hours, but says that the navy is not yet up to the point from which they are to start—Spellar's Ferry. He desires two sections of Napoleon guns, which I will send if possible. New York papers of the 17th are received. Richmond papers of the 15th announce the capture by General Sherman of Fort McAllister, on the Ogeechee River. Thomas and Hood have had another battle, in which our forces were victorious.

E. HARLAND,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, VA.,
December 21, 1864—4.45 p. m.

Major-General HALLECK:

The following dispatch just received:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 21, 1864—4.35 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Richmond papers just in say: "An official dispatch from Wilmington, dated yesterday at 10 a. m., says the advance of the enemy's fleet anchored off that point during last night. Over thirty steamers are now assembling and more are following." Dispatch from Dublin late last night states that fighting had been going on near Mount Airy for two days. The salt-works were supposed to be safe thus far.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 21, 1864—12.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Twenty-three deserters came in yesterday. They do not communicate anything of importance. A contraband, who came in from Hicks-

ford, reports the enemy busily engaged in repairing the Weldon railroad between the Meherrin and the Nottoway, also that the enemy's cavalry are suffering for the want of forage since the destruction of the road, and that a large part of the cavalry has been sent to Belfield, though a considerable force remains at Stony Creek.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: A contraband that left Stony Creek day before yesterday states that the Weldon railroad is being repaired from Belfield to the Nottoway River, and that large parties of infantry are at work on it; that the cavalry is principally at Stony Creek Station, though a large force is at Belfield; that he was told by a cavalryman Hill's corps had been ordered back to Belfield again; did not know if it had gone. Destruction of the railroad has done great injury to the cavalry; horses are dying for want of forage.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following deserters from the enemy have been received to-day: One from Second Georgia Battalion, Wright's old brigade, Mahone's division; two from Fifty-second North Carolina, MacRae's brigade, Heth's division; one from Tenth Florida, Finegan's brigade, Mahone's division; two from Thirty-fifth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Forty-ninth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division; one from Fifty-sixth North Carolina, Ransom's brigade, Johnson's division. No movements discovered. Hill's corps had not moved yesterday morning. All quiet on Johnson's line. No information of Rodes' division. Gordon's and Pegram's divisions still reported on the right. No official news from Sherman.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

No changes discovered during the day. Smoke, as if from a moving engine, seen moving southwest from the vicinity of Port Walthall Junction; supposed to be on some new branch road.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. F. FISHER,
Colonel and Chief Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 345. } *December 21, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

4. The commanding officer of the Second Cavalry Division will relieve the detachment of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry, now serving as a guard for the general cattle herd, near City Point, by a detail of equal strength.

5. So much of existing orders as requires that four days' rations be kept on the persons of the troops is revoked, but these rations must be kept constantly on hand, and where they can be issued at very short notice.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of my command and nothing of interest occurred since last report. Four deserters from the enemy came in last night and one yesterday morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
No. 608. } *December 21, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

5. Maj. R. A. Brown, Sixty-first New York Volunteers, is hereby detailed as acting assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters and will report for duty at once.

By command of Brigadier-General Miles:

RICHARD A. BROWN,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 21, 1864.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. JAMES GWYN,
Commanding Third Brigade:

GENERAL: The brevet major-general commanding the division having received a leave of absence for twenty days, he directs me to inform you that the command of the division will devolve upon you. He leaves this afternoon for City Point.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. W. SWAN,
Brevet Major, U. S. Army, and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 21, 1864. (Received 9.25 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired on the lines of this corps during the preceding twenty-four hours. Three batteries of the Fifth Corps were yesterday relieved by a corresponding number of batteries of this corps.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 21, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing new along our lines. Five deserters have been reported—one from Sixtieth Alabama, two from Thirty-fifth North Carolina, one from Forty-ninth North Carolina, one from Fifty-sixth North Carolina.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 21, 1864—11.50 p. m.

BRIGADE COMMANDERS:

It is reported that the enemy have drawn the water from a pond in the vicinity of Fort Stedman since dusk, and that their picket-firing is more lively than usual. In view of any movement on the part of the enemy, the general commanding directs that you have the men of your command ready to move at one hour before daylight to-morrow morning, in case their support should be required. The troops will not leave their respective commands, but they will be held in readiness to march at a moment's notice.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND DIVISION, CAVALRY CORPS,
December 21, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report that scouting parties sent daily in front of the cavalry picket-line fail to discover any of the enemy in the sections formerly frequented by numerous scouts and guerrillas. At Proctor's, on the Jerusalem plank road, there are pickets of the enemy's cavalry, as formerly, watching the roads leading to the Rowanty, the reserve of this picketing force being at Salem Church.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. McM. GREGG,
Brevet Major-General of Volunteers, Comdg. Second Division.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 21, 1864—12 m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

A deserter in this morning from Twenty-eighth Georgia, Colquitt's brigade, Hoke's division, states that one brigade, Kirkland's, left for North Carolina yesterday a. m. Field's, Kershaw's, Barton's, and remainder of Hoke's divisions still in my front. The rebels are granting furloughs, two to every 100 men.

E. O. C. ORD.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 21, 1864. (Received 6.40 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel BOWERS:

The following dispatch has just been received from Bermuda:

ASSISTANT ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

I have the honor to report the arrival of part of the staff of Second Brigade, First Infantry Division, Army of West Virginia, with about fifteen enlisted men in charge of horses and baggage belonging to brigade headquarters. We are in advance of Col. William B. Curtis, commanding Second Brigade, and his command, and await your orders.

H. R. McCORD,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

I know nothing of the force referred to.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *December 21, 1864.*

General ORD:

The troops you refer to are the advance of re-enforcements from the Valley now on the way with orders to report to you. When they get here you are expected, with a part of them, to relieve the troops recently sent from here to Bermuda Hundred, and let them come back.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S,
December 21, 1864—11.15 a. m.

General TURNER:

We have received two deserters from vicinity of Howlett Battery; very intelligent men. No changes on my line.

E. FERRERO,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 21, 1864.

D. HEATON, Esq.,
Supervising Special Agent of the Treasury:

SIR: After conference with you I am inclined to put my views, and what I believe to be the views of the Government, on paper, in regard

to getting from the rebel lines the products of your district, especially cotton, turpentine, and tobacco. I think it would be best to receive all such products from any party desiring to dispose of the same, and to advance, either in goods or money, the amounts which you would be safe in doing, looking to the rise and fall of the markets while the property is *in transitu* to Norfolk or New York for sale, and I would advise that you should use any money in your hands, the product of abandoned estates and property, for this purpose. By these means 25 per cent of the product would be saved the Government, the resources of the rebels would be in so far diminished, and I am assured that in so doing you would be carrying out what is the policy of the Government. I have directed General Palmer to give all aid and protection of the military forces to all persons bringing in the products of the country which are to be turned over to the Treasury. You can call upon the quartermaster to furnish you with such return transportation as he may have to aid you in this purpose, of course charging a proper freight to the merchandise, to be deducted in its account of sale, which amount is to be paid to the Quartermaster's Department. Of course, it will occur to you at once that there must be some caution used in this matter, because, if it is known in the Confederacy that the Government is actually purchasing these products, it will simply cause a rise of the same in the Confederacy, and not give the profit between the present price in the United States and in the Confederacy, where it belongs, either to the Government or to the loyal citizen who shall bring it in. Therefore, preferably loyal citizens should be allowed to bring in the products of the country to you. I would further suggest that, as a rise of prices in the Confederacy would be stimulated by an unrestrained trade by all parties who desire to get it out, that you keep control of the trade by means of your permits; and, although that may make it essentially a monopoly, yet it is a monopoly for the purpose of keeping down the prices in the Confederacy. These last suggestions will not apply, however, to a party actually raising, owning, and bringing in products, whether he is loyal or disloyal, but applies to those who come in as go-betweens from the producer to the Government as traders merely. I am quite certain that this course of action will be sustained by the Treasury, as I am prepared to say it will be by the military authorities.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 22, 1864.*

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 22, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The Richmond Examiner of to-day says it was currently reported yesterday that two divisions of the enemy's cavalry had crossed the Blue Ridge, and were moving toward Madison Court-House.

LATER.—That Sheridan's infantry had come up the Valley to a point between Harrisonburg and New Market. His advance is supposed to be intended as a diversion in favor of the cavalry movement on this side of the mountains. Early has marched out to meet him. The mounted force which has crossed the mountains is 4,000 in numbers, and have four pieces of artillery. They were yesterday in Madison County.

The Enquirer says: "Some thirty-five vessels have appeared off New Inlet, below Wilmington, and among them are recognized the Colorado and Wabash, and it is inferable that this point is the object of the great expedition which recently left Fort Monroe under Butler and Porter. An official report from General Bragg yesterday states that owing to the severe state of the weather, the enemy off New Inlet have been unable to make any demonstration. He states that he is fully able to hold the city of Wilmington."

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General, Commanding.

Just received and respectfully forwarded.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 22, 1864—12 m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Six deserters are reported as coming in yesterday. No information of any movement of the enemy has been obtained from them. Two men deserted from the Second Corps picket-line to the enemy last night. There is nothing else of any consequence to communicate from this army.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE, *Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: The following deserters from the enemy came in on General Miles' front this a. m.: Two from Twelfth Virginia Infantry, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Seventh Tennessee Infantry, Archer's brigade, Heth's division. No information of any changes or movements of troops; position of Hill's corps unchanged; Gordon's and Pegram's divisions near Burgess' Mill; nothing known of Rodes' division. The following deserters came in on the Ninth Corps front last evening: Six from Forty-sixth Virginia, Wise's brigade, Johnson's division; four from Fifty-ninth Virginia, Wise's brigade, Johnson's division. Report no change on Johnson's line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE, *Commanding Army of the Potomac:*

GENERAL: Following telegram just received from City Point:

Information from Richmond this a. m. to the effect that Hoke's division is now moving by the Danville railroad. The last of it will be off to-morrow, and it is supposed it is bound for Wilmington. The report of Rodes' division having come from the Valley is confirmed. They may have gone south, if they are not in your front.

J. MCENTEE,
Lieutenant-Colonel, &c.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant Signal Corps:

A train of cars passed to the left on the South Side Railroad at 8.15 a. m. Train of nine wagons and three ambulances passed to the left on Pocahontas road. No changes in enemy's camps.

B. W. MARCY.

All quiet this a. m. No change observed. The following was intercepted at 4.10 p. m. yesterday:

"Colonel B[RENT]:

"At 1 p. m. one regiment of infantry passed up the river toward Fort Harrison. One-half hour afterward four regiments drilled at Signal Hill. All quiet this p. m. Dredging-machine still at work.

"R.,
"*Sergeant.*

("Same to A. B.")

H. W. HOLMAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain and Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

Lieutenant Stryker:

A train of twenty wagons passed to the left on the Pocahontas road at 12.30 p. m. No change in enemy's lines.

B. W. MARCY,
Sergeant.

All quiet this p. m. No change observed. The following has been intercepted:

"STEUART'S FRONT—10.20 a. m.

"Colonel B[RENT]:

"All quiet this a. m. No activity observed in enemy's camps.
"From Dunn's: 'All quiet. Gun-boat and schooner off Port Walthall.'

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

H. W. HOLMAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 346. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 22, 1864.

* * * * * * *

7. Medals of honor having been conferred upon the enlisted men of this army reported as having individually captured flags which were regularly turned in, the commanding general will now be happy to present to the War Department the names of such other enlisted men as in the judgment of corps and independent commanders are entitled to medals of honor for conspicuous gallantry. In each case the recom-

mendation will be accompanied by a statement showing the services on which it is based, together with the occasion and date on which the services were rendered.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of my command and nothing of interest occurred since last report. Two privates of the One hundred and eleventh New York Volunteers deserted from First Division picket last night, and three deserters from the enemy came into our lines on First Division front.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 326. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
Before Petersburg, Va., December 22, 1864.

1. In addition to his present duties Maj. George W. Johnes, assistant quartermaster, headquarters Third Division, is assigned to duty as acting chief quartermaster of the corps during the temporary absence of Lieutenant-Colonel Shallenberger, chief quartermaster. Major Johnes will report in person to these headquarters without delay.

* * * * * * *

4. By authority of the major-general commanding the Army of the Potomac leave of absence for ten days is granted to Maj. Gen. John Gibbon, commanding Second Division, Second Army Corps, for the benefit of his health.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. GEORGE N. MACY,
Commanding First Brigade:

GENERAL: The brigadier-general commanding the division directs that a new curtain between Forts Fisher and Welch be constructed by the troops of your brigade upon the line staked out yesterday. The ditch to be six feet deep and about twelve feet wide, and the earth to be used in the breast-works, which will consist of a banquette one foot high and two feet wide, and a parapet four feet above the banquette, with a berm of sufficient length to prevent land-slides. The work will be commenced at once and completed as rapidly as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. A. BROWN,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 97. } HDQRS. 2D DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS, *December 22, 1864.*

The inspection directed of the Twentieth Massachusetts, Sixty-ninth New York National Guard Artillery, and the One hundred and eighth New York Volunteers having this day taken place, the major-general commanding the division decides in favor of the One hundred and eighth New York Volunteers as being in the best serviceable condition. It is, therefore, announced as the model regiment of this division and will be excused from all picket, fatigue, and other outside details for one week from the 26th instant.

The following-named enlisted men, having reported at these headquarters as the neatest men in their respective brigades, viz: Private H. H. Elliott, Nineteenth Regiment Maine Volunteers, First Brigade; Corpl. Lackey Conway, One hundred and fifty fifth New York Volunteers, Second Brigade; Corpl. John Smith, Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers, Third Brigade, they have been duly inspected, and Corpl. L. Conway, One hundred and fifty-fifth Regiment New York Volunteers, decided to be the neatest, most soldierly one. He is, therefore, announced as the model soldier of this division, and a furlough for twenty days will be at once made out and forwarded for him.

Private H. H. Elliott, Nineteenth Maine Volunteers, First Brigade, and Corpl. John Smith, Fourteenth Connecticut Volunteers, Third Brigade, will be excused from all picket and other outside details for one week.

By command of Major-General Gibbon:

JNO. M. NORVELL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. 1ST BRIG., 3D DIV., 5TH ARMY CORPS, *December 22, 1864.*

The general commanding brigade being temporarily absent from his command, the undersigned, as senior officer present, hereby assumes the command. All orders heretofore issued from these headquarters will be respected and obeyed until altered by competent authority.

By command of—

HENRY A. MORROW,
Colonel Twenty-fourth Michigan Vols., Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864. (Received 9.10 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired on the lines of this corps during the preceding twenty-four hours.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS:

Nothing new along our line. It has been reported that the water was drawn off from the dam in the stream opposite Fort Haskell. Fearing that a demonstration might be made on that point of our line, extra

vigilance was oberved throughout the night. No demonstration was made, and I cannot learn that any movement was made on that point of the line. I think the dam was probably carried away by the heavy rain. Four deserters from the Fifty-ninth Virginia have been reported.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. J. C. TIDBALL,
Chief of Artillery, Ninth Corps:

GENERAL: In reply to your communication of the 20th, respecting the firing on your front and along the lines, I have to state that Major-General Meade gave directions to General Parke to have no firing not necessary, and that whilst it would be impracticable to get an order taking away all control by commanders of divisions, &c., on the lines, yet when firing does take place by these orders the artillery officer shall make a report of the circumstances, and if, in his opinion, the firing was necessary. If the report is against the necessity, you will please investigate the circumstances, and if the firing was unjustifiable report the circumstances and name of the officer who ordered it, that he may be called to account. The rule must be that the artillery commander is the judge of the necessity of using his batteries, and will be responsible if he fails to use them when necessary, or if, by his too free use of them, he causes casualties unnecessarily. In judging of the responsible officer, a liberal construction should be given to his acts. Whilst it cannot be forbidden to the commander of the troops present to issue orders to the artillery when he thinks it necessary, such orders, when given by him, will be obeyed and reported as directed, that any abuse of power may be corrected.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

HENRY J. HUNT,
Brevet Major-General, Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 22, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Deserters from Colquitt's brigade say that the balance of the division (Hoke's) was to have left this morning for the south or west. They went through Richmond, avoiding the pontoon bridge.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 22, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

Another brigade of Hoke's division has been sent south and was met in the cars south of Petersburg by a deserter now here. I have a deserter here who has been a long time at Charlotte, N. C., and can give you valuable information about that place and Columbia, S. C.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

General Harris has reported to me. He tells me that the two brigades which are to come here have not yet arrived at Bermuda. He does not expect them till to-morrow morning. I will have transportation ready for them. I suggest that if the draught of water of their vessels will permit they should come in there to Jones' Landing. You say that General Ord directs that one brigade shall be encamped on the right of Camp Holly. Does he wish them to go outside of the line connecting that work with the Deep Bottom line? The ground there is either a quite steep hillside or low, and, I think, rather damp.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 22, 1864.

Brig. Gen. C. DEVENS:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the brevet major-general commanding to direct you to have the camp of the brigade of General Ames' division that was in reserve cleared of all officers and men who may still be there, so that the huts can be taken possession of by the brigade of Brevet Brigadier-General Harris' command that has been sent to the corps. The camp will have to be vacated to-morrow forenoon.

Very respectfully,

THEODORE READ,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S, *December 22, 1864—3 p. m.*

General TURNER:

Portions of the Eleventh and Fifteenth West Virginia, under command of Colonel Wells, have arrived. They number about 800 men.

Very respectfully,

E. FERRERO,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 22, 1864.

Lieut. Col. J. M. CLOUGH,
Commanding Engineer Brigade:

COLONEL: You will proceed with your command at daylight to-morrow morning, to City Point, via Broadway Landing, and report to your commanding officer at that place.

By order of Brevet Major-General Ferrero:

GEO. A. HICKS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

BERMUDA HUNDRED, *December 22, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel SMITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

In obedience to orders from Lieutenant-General Grant, I have the honor to report to you. One brigade of my division is here at present; the other two have not yet arrived. I await your orders.

T. M. HARRIS,
Brt. Brig. Gen., Comdg. First Infty. Div., Army of West Virginia.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Washington, D. C., December 23, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, U. S. Army:

GENERAL: In view of the complaint and remonstrance of Mr. Tassara, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Her Catholic Majesty, the Secretary of War directs that the military authorities of the United States conducting flags of truce will neither receive nor convey any communication whatever issued from or directed to any Spanish authority or agent unless the same shall be unsealed.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 23, 1864—1 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Nineteen deserters are reported this morning as coming from the enemy into the lines of the Ninth and Second Corps, and two deserters from the Second Corps to the enemy. The enemy's deserters report the establishment of a new mortar battery in front of Fort Morton. The attention of the engineers and artillery have been directed to this matter. I have a Richmond paper of the 22d, extracts from which are not forwarded, as it is presumed you have seen it.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Sixteen deserters from the enemy have been forwarded to-day. They represent Wise's, Wallace's, and Ransom's brigades, of Johnson's division, and Walker's and MacRae's brigades, of Heth's division. No changes reported on any part of the line. Nothing definite regarding Early's corps, and a rumor that all or part of it was near Jarratt's Station. Hampton's cavalry camped about and below Stony Creek. Deserters from Wise's brigade give some detailed information concerning a mortar battery and 10-inch columbiad to the rear of enemy's Battery No. 27, on Jerusalem plank road. The mortar battery has lately been constructed. It is situated about 150 yards north-

west of Battery No. 27, on the point where the enemy's line crosses the Jerusalem plank road. The battery consists of nine mortars, seven Coehorn, and two 8-inch, and is situated on the covered slope of a ravine, to the west and near the plank road. The Coehorn mortars have a range in the direction of Fort Hell, and the 8-inch are on the left (enemy's left) of the Coehorns, some twenty yards distant, with an easterly range. The 10-inch columbiad is on the same site as the Whitworth gun that was used upon our railroad. The latter gun has been dismounted and the 10-inch columbiad substituted. Its location is about 350 yards north of west of the mortar battery, on the opposite side of the ravine. Work has lately been suspended on these batteries. Various reports put the number of mortars from ten to fifteen, but from two intelligent and well-informed men the above report coincides. No news from Savannah or elsewhere. News of Thomas' operations unknown to informants until they reached our lines.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 23, 1864.

Colonel FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer:

At 8 a. m. a train of cars passed westward, and at 2 p. m. one passed toward Petersburg on South Side Railroad. A small party strengthened enemy's works near the Boisseau property.

I. THICKSTUN,
Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 23, 1864—9 a. m.

Captain PAINE:

All quiet this a. m. No change observed. The following were intercepted yesterday eve:

4.20 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

All quiet this p. m. Gun-boat in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

4.30 P. M.

Major P.:

Evening report: There have passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, seven trains—two of fifteen box-cars each, two of ten box-cars and six flats, one of nine box-cars and five flats, one of seven box-cars, and the other of eight flats, with a few soldiers on, and thirty-five wagons. In rear of same battery, going toward City Point, two trains—one of five box-cars, the other was not counted, and thirty wagons. Wagons reported as going in both directions, believed to be wood wagons.

B. C.,
At D.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 23, 1864.

Lieutenant STRYKER,
Adjutant Signal Corps:

A good many wagons seen all day, moving in both directions on road near Richmond pike.

JORDAN.

A large gun appears in the high work to the right of the lead-works. No other changes in enemy's lines visible from the station.

JUDSON.

All quiet this p. m. The enemy are still strengthening the rear of Fort Clifton. The following has been intercepted:

"DUNN'S—9.30 a. m.

"Colonel B.:

"One large brigade of infantry came from front of Chesterfield and stopped in open space. Gun-boats in same position.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"STEUART'S FRONT—10 a. m.

"Colonel B.:

"The brigade reported have passed Point of Rocks, going toward lower pontoon. Late yesterday morning thirty wagons passed up and twenty down the river. All quiet this a. m.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"10.10 A. M.

"Colonel B.:

"A tug just went up the river and stopped at Strahan's lower landing. A small boat containing three men came from here and stopped at Cobb's.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"STEUART'S FRONT.

"Colonel B.:

"A brigade of infantry just passed up the river, followed by twelve six-horse wagons. Wagons have been passing at intervals since, but no heavy trains. Working party of twenty men engaged just to right of Battery C.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"3.30 P. M.

"Major P.:

"There have passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, five trains, one of two box-cars and one of six, one of thirteen, one of fourteen, and one of twelve, also thirty wagons. Rear of same battery, going toward City Point, three trains, one of two box-cars and five flats, one of ten box and eight flats, and one of four box-cars, also thirty wagons.

"B. C.,
"*Sergeant, at D.*"

H. W. HOLMAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain, &c.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 23, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Col. B. F. FISHER:

At 4 p. m. about 100 cavalry came from the left on Boydton plank road and disappeared north of lead-works, moving toward Petersburg. All quiet.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 23, 1864. (Received 10.55 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of this command since last report. Seven deserters from the enemy. MacRae's and Fry's brigades, Heth's division, came into our lines last night. Two men of the Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers deserted to the enemy this morning.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIFTH CORPS,
December 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General BARTLETT,
Commanding Third Brigade:

GENERAL: General Griffin directs me to inform you that he leaves for Washington to-morrow morning, leaving you in command of the division. Savannah is taken, with 15,000 prisoners. Fort Fisher, off Wilmington, N. C., is also taken.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. MONTEITH,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 23, 1864. (Received 9.25 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired on the lines of this corps during the preceding twenty-four hours.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
December 23, 1864.

Col. R. S. MACKENZIE,
Commanding Second Brigade, First Division:

COLONEL: General Wheaton, who is absent on a short leave, desired me to inform you that the command of the division devolved tempora-

rily on you. The official mail, which has to reach corps headquarters at 1 o'clock daily, will be ready for your action at 12 m. Please inform me if I will take it to your quarters or you will visit these.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. CLENDENIN, JR.,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 23, 1864. (Received 11.30 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

Nothing new along our lines. Several deserters came in during the night, but have not yet been reported to these headquarters. I am informed that they report the constructing a new battery for fourteen mortars in front of their large gun. I would respectfully call the attention of the engineer department to the insecure condition of the magazines on portion of our line and would request that some engineer troops be detailed to make these repairs, as well as other repairs along the line. The engineers did not complete this work prior to the late movement. I would not now make this request had I the officers and men to spare for the work. Four deserters from the Forty-sixth Virginia and one from Thirty-fourth Virginia have just reported.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 49. } HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 23, 1864.

I. All officers and enlisted men in this command will be required to wear the corps badge upon the cap or hat. For the divisions the badges will be plain, made of cloth, in the shape of a shield, red for the first, white for the second, and blue for the third. For the Artillery Brigade the shield will be red and will be worn under the regulation cross cannon.

II. The quartermaster's department will furnish the necessary materials for these badges as soon as practicable.

III. Division commanders and the commanding officer Artillery Brigade will see that this order is carried into effect as far as concerns their respective commands.

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

P. M. LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 23, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT, *City Point:*

A file Richmond papers were sent through quartermaster at Bermuda to you to-day at 1 o'clock. They contain nothing of interest except telegraph from Wilmington, December 22, viz:

The Federal fleets have drawn off from the shore. Only the masts of the Colorado and the Wabash are visible. It is uncertain whether they have sought ports or gone south. High winds and very rough sea.

LEVENTHORPE,
General.

The enemy's gun-boats and barges below Poplar Point on the Roanoke River. On Tuesday evening the fight continued three hours. The enemy were repulsed, with severe loss. They resumed the attack on yesterday and landed some sharpshooters. Their main fleet of gun boats and transports lies below in attacking force. The advanced guard of attacking force moving against Gordonsville, supposed to consist of 1,000 or 1,500 cavalry, reached Madison Court-House, fifteen miles from Gordonsville, on Wednesday. The main body, comprising infantry and cavalry, were reported to be coming up. During yesterday the cavalry advanced three or four miles in the direction of Gordonsville, and at last accounts our troops were skirmishing with them. It is reported that Rosser has driven the enemy back down the Valley.

E. O. C. ORD.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER:

The enemy refuse to receive flag of truce on the New Market road. They will receive them only in front of Fort Harrison. I would suggest that if an officer goes out from last-named place that he should tell them that they need not be so damned particular, for we know that Hoke is gone. I have sent back the letters.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

HDQRS. DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 23, 1864.

Col. H. C. WARD,
Commanding Brigade:

COLONEL: The ten picket-posts on the extreme left of your front will be relieved this evening by a detail from General Thomas' brigade, and occupied by him permanently hereafter. You will reduce the detail for picket duty from your command to 200 men, and establish the posts on the river mentioned in your conversation with the general commanding this day.

By order of Brevet Major-General Ferrero:

GEO. A. HICKS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY DIVISION,
December 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: I send you an important refugee, George E. Baker, one of principal operators of the telegraph in Richmond. He has good news that you may not have received before, viz, the capture of Savannah, and Fort Fisher, at Wilmington. He can give you other important intelligence. The scout who brought him through got drunk, and I have him also. He has been running refugees through for some time and wants to go back. I think he had better be sent, but wish to know your orders in the case, and in order that he may see as little as possible of our lines I have kept him here. He is not a very brilliant man, and could not tell much if he was sent back.

Very respectfully, &c.,

AUGUST V. KAUTZ,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Division.

WASHINGTON, *December 24, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Applications are made by Governors of States to raise new regiments of volunteers under the recent call for 300,000 men. Although it is easier to raise the men by new regiments, the desire of the Department has been, so far as practicable, to secure new recruits for old regiments, and thus keep up their organization. Before any authorizations to raise new regiments are given, the Secretary of War desires your views on the subject. Please reply fully by telegraph.

THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Maj. Gen. G. G. Meade.)

CITY POINT, VA., *December 24, 1864—9 p. m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON:

I would much prefer seeing the 300,000 men called for go in to fill up old organizations than to see them come out as new regiments. It will be much more economical, and the men will be more effective under tried officers and alongside disciplined men. Unless there will be a great saving of time in getting men into the field by accepting regiments, I would not recommend receiving new organizations.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 24, 1864—9 p. m. (Sent 9.30 p. m.)

Maj. THOMAS M. VINCENT,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Washington:

This army now contains 2,490 company organizations, divided into 316 regiments and a number of battalions, and is deficient in enlisted men to fill these organizations to the maximum over 84,000 men. I am unhesitatingly of the opinion that the efficiency of this army will be more speedily effected by filling up existing organizations, rather than adding new regiments. The latter may be more speedily raised, but the former will be the soonest efficient, as new regiments require considerable time to be broken in. Many of the regiments and battalions are now consolidated into fewer companies than a full organization. There would be no objection, in my judgment, in such cases in adding new companies, and if it is finally determined that new organizations are to be raised, I would then suggest the immediate consolidation of the several skeleton regiments and battalions from each State into full and efficient regiments, the surplus officers to be transferred to the new organizations.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Twenty deserters from the enemy have been forwarded to-day from Archer's and Davis' brigades, of Heth's division; Weisiger's brigade, of Mahone's division, and Wise's, Ransom's, and Gracie's brigades, of Johnson's division. No change or movements reported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 24, 1864—1.40 p. m.

Major-General MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The station near the Friend house reports that at 12.30 a train of forty ambulances and ninety wagons moved on road near Richmond pike and near Pocahontas going toward our left, and that a camp of six wall-tents in rear of Cemetery Hill disappeared last night; also a small infantry camp southwest of Petersburg. The station at the Avery house reports that at 11 a. m. a body of about 200 infantry was seen moving to the left and rear of Fort Mahone. No other changes or movements have been reported.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,
CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain and Acting Chief Signal Officer.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
December 24, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Col. B. F. FISHER,
Chief Signal Officer, U. S. Army:

No change observed in the enemy's lines on this front to-day. Thirty-six wagons passed east and fifteen west on Cox road.

GEO. W. OAKES,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 24, 1864. (Received 6.30 p. m.)

Colonel FISHER:

Small parties have been at work in enemy's lines. Fort northwest from this station seems nearly completed. No movements observed.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Signal Officer.

The station referred to by Captain Thickstun is located immediately in front of Fort Fisher.

CHAS. L. DAVIS,
Captain, &c.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 156. } HDQRS. ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES, *City Point, Va., December 24, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. The siege train of the armies operating against Richmond, commanded by Bvt. Brig. Gen. H. L. Abbot, is hereby permanently attached to the Army of the Potomac, and will report accordingly.

By command of Lieutenant-General Grant:

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 24, 1864. (Received 11.20 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of my command since last report. Eight rebel deserters came into our lines last night. One from Davis' brigade, Heth's division, states that he heard that Hoke's and another division, name not known, had gone to North Carolina, or were to go, and he also states that they are throwing up another line of works from the right of Cooke's brigade in a straight line to Burgess' Mill. One man of the Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers deserted to the enemy last evening.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 24, 1864. (Received 9.45 p. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

General Miles reports occasional musket shots, in all perhaps a hundred or more, with some little cheering, during the past two hours in his front within the enemy's main line of works. Has been unable to ascertain the cause. Also reports that Private Julius Hanson, B, Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers, deserted to the enemy from the picket-line at 7 o'clock this p. m.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 611. } HDQRS. FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS, *December 24, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

2. In order to bring together the regiments of the several brigades of this division, the following changes in the disposition of the troops are hereby ordered, and will be made to-day under the supervision of brigade commanders:

The One hundred and eighty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, First Brigade, will relieve the Thirty-ninth New York Volunteers, Third Brigade; the Sixty-third New York Volunteers, Second Brigade, will relieve the One hundred and twenty-fifth New York Volunteers, Third Brigade; the Sixty-ninth New York Volunteers, Second Brigade, will

relieve the Sixty-fourth New York Volunteers, Fourth Brigade; the Sixty-fourth New York Volunteers will be moved to the left of the Fourth Brigade, near Fort Cummings; the One hundred and forty-eighth Pennsylvania Volunteers, now garrisoning Forts Gregg and Sampson, will move to and garrison Fort Cummings, relieving the Eighty-eighth New York Volunteers, which will move to and garrison Fort Gregg; the Sixty-sixth New York Volunteers will be strengthened by details to seventy-five muskets, and placed as garrison to Fort Sampson; the Thirty-ninth New York Volunteers and the One hundred and twenty-fifth New York Volunteers, on being relieved, will be placed on the line of the Third Brigade. The above changes when effected will be reported to the acting assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters.

* * * * * * *

By command of Brigadier-General Miles:

RICHARD A. BROWN,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 24, 1864. (Received 9.25 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired within the lines of this command during the preceding twenty-four hours.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 24, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing new along our lines. Eight deserters have been reported to these headquarters—three from Fifty-ninth Virginia, three from Forty-first Alabama, two from Thirty-fifth North Carolina. Others came in, but have not yet been reported.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 50. HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 24, 1864.

The general commanding takes pride in publishing to the corps the names of the following soldiers to whom were awarded by the National Congress medals of honor for gallant and meritorious conduct in the field: Private John H. Harbourne, Company K, Twenty-ninth Massachusetts Veteran Volunteers; Sergt. James S. Hill, Company C, Fourteenth New York Heavy Artillery; Sergt. Maj. George H. Plowman, Third Maryland Battalion; First Sergt. Barnard A. Strausbaugh, Company A, Third Maryland Battalion; Private Robert Reid, Company G, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers; Corpl. Patrick Monaghan, Company G, Forty-eighth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers;

Private Henry W. Rowe, Company I, Eleventh New Hampshire Volunteers; Sergt. Leander A. Wilkins, Company H, Ninth New Hampshire Volunteers; Sergt. Charles Brown, Company C, Fiftieth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers; Corpl. Benjamin F. Young, Company I, First Michigan Sharpshooters; Corpl. Franklin Hogan, Company A, Forty-fifth Pennsylvania Veteran Volunteers. To those of this number here present with the command the medals were p esented on the 16th of December instant, by the major-general commanding the army, with words of praise and appreciation that conferred an additional value upon the reward. The medals are a permanent and substantial honor. Borne upon the breast, they stamp the bearer as one whose brave deeds have won national recognition, and the men who won them will transmit with pride to their descendants these testimonials of gallant and soldierly conduct. To these brave men, whose valor and services have been thus rewarded by the nation, the general commanding desires to express his thanks, and he trusts that their comrades will be inspired to emulate their achievements and bring like honors to themselves and the corps.

By command of Maj. Gen. John G. Parke:

P. M. LYDIG,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 24, 1864—10 p. m.

Real-Admiral PORTER,
Commanding North Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: We will endeavor to effect a landing above Flag-Pond Hill Battery, between that and Half-Moon, at such an hour as may be fixed upon by consultation between yourself and General Weitzel, who will have command of the troops, and who will meet you at any hour you choose to arrange details. To do this, it will probably be necessary that you should send such vessels as will cover the landing, and what those shall be is, of course, for your better judgment. I design, in the first place, to send on shore a party for reconnaissance sufficiently strong to hold the landing if we gain a good hold, and then to land as rapidly as possible our whole force, and if from the reconnaissance it is deemed practicable to attempt an assault on Fort Fisher the assault will be made. We have boats enough of our own to land the first detachment. We shall ask you for any spare boats you may have, with their crews to pull them, to aid in the landing of our forces. A half dozen armed with howitzers had also better be sent. Will you allow these boats to report to General Graham? We can take them in tow from such point as you may designate. It would seem to be best that the naval attack should be continued with spirit and effect upon the fort, and endeavor to silence it and keep it silenced. The messenger who bears this will take back an answer and notify General Weitzel when you will desire to see him. It is suggested that the landing take place about 8 o'clock, after the navy have been engaged with the fort an hour or more.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 25, 1864—9 p. m. (Received 9.15 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

I tender you my hearty congratulations on the fall of Savannah. I have ordered a salute, 100 guns, to be fired at 7 a. m. to-morrow, in honor of the event.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 25, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Six deserters from Mahone's old and Harris' brigades, of Mahone's division, have just been forwarded. They came in on General Miles' front, Second Army Corps, this a. m. One of them states that two divisions of infantry went to Weldon day before yesterday; heard it talked about in camp; said to be Early's divisions, one from Burgess' Mill and the other from Jarratt's Station; no further particulars; understood in rebel army yesterday that Sherman had taken Savannah and was marching on Charleston; had destroyed the Charleston and Savannah Railroad in four places.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

CITY POINT, *December 25, 1864.*

J. C. BABCOCK:

Agent coming from Richmond yesterday was obliged to destroy a written communication on being halted by rebel scouts. He remembers the information very indistinctly, which was to the effect that the troops ordered south had gone according to the programme before communicated. These included Hoke's division, and were in number from 8,000 to 10,000. Troops had been sent to Gordonsville, and agent thinks Hunton's brigade went as a part or the whole of them. Yesterday's Richmond papers admit the occupation of Gordonsville; say that communication with Savannah is broken, and have nothing from Wilmington. What news do you get?

SHARPE,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION.
December 25, 1864—12 m.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserters from Hill's corps report that two divisions of Early's corps went to Wilmington day before yesterday, one from Burgess' Mill, the other from Jarratt's Station, probably Gordon's and Pegram's divisions. Nothing heard from Rodes' division. Reported in rebel army yester-

day that Savannah had surrendered and that Sherman was marching on Charleston, having destroyed the Savannah and Charleston Railroad in four places.

J. C. BABCOCK.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 25, 1864—4 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

All quiet this p. m. The following were intercepted:

STEUART'S FRONT—1 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

Between 2 p. m. and dark thirty wagons passed up and twenty-five down the river. At 4 p. m. four uncovered wagons or pieces of artillery, I could not distinguish which, followed soon after by one piece of artillery. Cheering and drumming heard at Hunter's front just before dark. All quiet this p. m.

R.,
At B.

(Same to A. B.)

4 P. M.

Major P.:

On account of smoke, only one train has been observed in rear of Battery 5. No wagons.

B.,
At D.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 25, 1864. (Received 10.30 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of this command since last report. Six deserters from the enemy came into our lines last night. Private Williams, Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers, deserted to the enemy at 9 p. m. yesterday.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 50. } HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 25, 1864.

I. The picket-line of the First Division will be shortened, the left resting upon the road running westward from Fort Cummings.

II. The picket-line of the Second Division will extend from that road to the branch of Arthur's Swamp, running past the Chappell house.

III. The picket-line of the Third Division will connect with that of the Second Division at the point indicated in the preceding paragraph, and extend to the connection it now has with the picket-line of the Fifth Corps.

IV. As soon as this readjustment of picket-line is made, the division commanders will report the number of officers and enlisted men detailed for picket duty.

V. Division commanders will enjoin upon the field officers of the day the habitual instructions of their command in the requirements of the recent order respecting salutes and other ceremonies by troops on outpost duty.

By order of Major-General Humphreys:

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 25, 1864. (Received 9.55 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired on the lines of this command during the preceding twenty-four hours.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 25, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There was more picket-firing than usual last night. No deserters have been reported as yet. It is thought that the troops in our front were changed during the night, although the smoke and haze prevent our making any observations this a. m. to confirm or disprove this idea.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

P. S.—One deserter from Forty-sixth Virginia just reported. No change in the troops up to the time he left—10 p. m.

J. G. P.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 25, 1864.

Rear-Admiral PORTER,
Comdg. North Atlantic Blockading Squadron, U. S. S. Malvern:

ADMIRAL: Upon landing the troops and making a thorough reconnaissance of Fort Fisher, both General Weitzel and myself are fully of the opinion that the place could not be carried by assault, as it was left substantially uninjured as a defensive work by the navy fire. We found seventeen guns protected by traverses, two only of which were dismounted, bearing up the beach and covering a strip of land, the only practicable route, not more than wide enough for 1,000 men in line of battle. Having captured Flag-Pond Hill Battery, the garrison of which, sixty-five men and two commissioned officers, were taken off by the navy, we also captured Half-Moon Battery, and 7 officers and 218 men of the Third North Carolina Junior Reserves, including its commander, from whom I learn that a portion of Hoke's division, consisting of Kirkland's and Hagood's brigades, had been sent from the lines before Richmond on Tuesday last, arriving at Wilmington on Friday night. General Weitzel advanced his skirmish line within fifty yards of the fort while the garrison were kept in their bomb-proofs by the fire

of the navy, and so closely that three or four men of the picket-line ventured upon the parapet and through the sally-port of the work, capturing a horse, which they brought off, killing the orderly, who was the bearer of a dispatch from the chief of the artillery of General Whiting to bring a light battery within the fort, and also brought away from the parapet the flag of the fort. This was done while the shells of the navy were falling about the heads of the daring men who entered the work, and it was found as soon as the fire of the navy ceased, because of darkness, that the fort was fully manned again and opened with grape and canister upon our picket-line. Finding that nothing but the operations of a regular siege, which did not come within my instructions, would reduce the fort, and in view of the threatening aspect of the weather, wind arising from the southeast, rendering it impossible to make further landings through the surf, I caused the troops, with their prisoners, to be re-embarked, and see nothing further that can be done by the land forces. I shall, therefore, sail for Hampton Roads as soon as the transport fleet can be got in order. My engineers and officers report Fort Fisher to me as substantially uninjured as a defensive work.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND N. CAROLINA,
December 25, 1864.

As soon as the troops are re-embarked all the transports and supply vessels will sail for Fort Monroe. Any vessel not having coal or water enough to reach there will put in to Beaufort, N. C., to procure the supplies, and thence proceed to Hampton Roads with all possible dispatch. All the transports having troops, except the Empire City, will at once go up James River and land the troops at Varina or Deep Bottom. The Empire City will lighter her troops and land them at Beaufort. Vessels will be sent down to take her troops to the Army of the James. As soon as coal enough can be put on the Empire City to take her to Port Royal she will report there for full coal to proceed to New Orleans. The Winants will remain at the anchorage to see that all vessels get off and communicate these instructions, and she will then proceed to Beaufort and give them to the commanding officer there. The Chamberlain and Porter (tug) will sail with the fleet, the Chamberlain keeping in communication with the Ben De Ford. The tug will accompany the Baltic.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 25, 1864. (Received 10.20 a. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

General Ferrero telegraphs as follows:

Hunton's brigade, of Pickett's division, left for Gordonsville on Friday morning last by rail; thirteen men reported frozen to death on the cars. Six deserters came in during the night. The Thirty-first U. S. Colored Troops has returned; also the balance of Colonel Wells' brigade.

J. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 26, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. H. W. HALLECK,
Chief of Staff of the Army:

I am just in receipt of a letter from General G. B. McClellan, saying that he proposes visiting Europe soon with his family, and that Mrs. McClellan desires to see her father before starting and requests a leave of absence for Colonel Marcy, that this desire may be gratified. I do not know the special duty Colonel Marcy may be on at this time, and do not therefore wish to order the leave granted lest it may interfere with important duties. If not inconsistent with the public service, however, I wish this leave to be granted from Washington. Colonel Marcy I believe is in Memphis, Tenn.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Twenty-five deserters from the enemy, including one commissioned officer (second lieutenant), came into our lines this a. m. They represent Harris' and Finegan's brigades, of Mahone's division; Scales' brigade, of Wilcox's division, and Wise's, Wallace's, Ransom's, and Gracie's brigades, of Johnson's division. From the lieutenant we learn that the following divisions have lately gone to Wilmington: Gordon's and Pegram's on Wednesday evening last; Hoke's on Tuesday last, via Danville and Richmond Railroad; Kershaw's division followed Hoke's, making in all four divisions gone; Rodes' division moving from Valley at last accounts; Battle's brigade, of this division, already arrived at Dunlop's Station, two miles above Petersburg; General Battle, commanding Rodes' division, said to be in readiness to relieve Johnson's division, which is going to Wilmington; General Anderson, commanding Hoke's and Johnson's divisions, has gone to Wilmington, probably in command; only Wharton's division (a small brigade) left in Valley with Early, beside his cavalry. The lieutenant reports that he had arranged matters with sixty men from his brigade to desert next Wednesday, but being fearful that the plot would be discovered came over in advance. Provisions are very scarce, no meat issued of late; are issuing codfish. He says we may look for swarms of deserters soon. No additional information from Savannah. Nothing of importance from the others, except organization, strength, &c., of their commands.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 468. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 26, 1864.

* * * * * * *

3. Col. B. F. Fisher, chief signal officer of the army, is hereby relieved from duty with the Army of the Potomac, and will at once assume charge of the office of the Signal Corps, in the city of Washington, D. C., which, from this date, will be taken as the station of Colonel Fisher.

All funds, property, office records, books, &c., hitherto in the charge of Lieut. Col. W. J. L. Nicodemus, Signal Corps, U. S. Army, and pertaining to the office of the chief signal officer, will be immediately turned over to the charge of Colonel Fisher, who will report the amount of funds received, and for which the signal officer is responsible.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 26, 1864. (Received 10.15 p. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of this command since last report. Two deserters came into our lines during the night.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 26, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER FIRST DIVISION:

GENERAL: The commanding general desires me to say that, with the information you have received, perhaps it would be well not to relieve your pickets to-morrow morning, but wait until evening, notifying them to night of the information received by you, so as to put them on their guard. They will not commence firing, however, but wait for the enemy to begin.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

P. S.—Since writing the above the commanding general has questioned the four deserters very thoroughly, and it does not seem to him probable that the enemy will commence sharpshooting for some time yet. It will be well, however, the general suggests, for you to make every necessary preparation to meet any attempt on their part to open fire on our pickets or intrenchments.

SEPT. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARTILLERY BRIG., SECOND CORPS,
No. 220. } *December 26, 1864.*

I. Maj. R. Bruce Ricketts, First Pennsylvania Artillery, is hereby relieved from the command of the batteries of this corps on the Ninth Corps line. All communications not of an urgent character, and all reports required at these headquarters, will be sent to the camp of the Sixth Maine Battery, inclosed and directed to the acting assistant adjutant-general at these headquarters. Papers should be there by 7 a. m. in order that they may be brought up by the mail-carriers.

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By command of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Hazard:

U. D. EDDY,
Lieutenant and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 26, 1864. (Received 9.10 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired on the lines of this corps during the preceding twenty-four hours.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 26, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual along our lines. A number of deserters came in during the night. They have not yet reached these headquarters; among them one lieutenant.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 26, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

First Lieutenant Redwood, Forty-third Alabama, came in last night. The lieutenant says he left Richmond yesterday morning; says that any signal, three shots, this evening, will bring over quite a number of men. General Willcox says he will arrange for this signal if there is no objection. I will forward the lieutenant in an ambulance.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 26, 1864—12.30 p. m. (Sent 12.47 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE:

There is no objection to a signal, provided all proper precautions are taken against treachery. This proposition has been made once or twice before without any result. The last time rockets were thrown up.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

ORDERS.] HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 26, 1864.

In consequence of the troops left on shore the order of sailing will be in so far amended that the Chamberlain will remain behind, assisting in re-embarking the troops, reporting to General Ames. As soon as that duty is performed she will proceed at once to Fort Monroe.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 26, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER ON BOARD THE EMPIRE CITY:

The Empire City will proceed at once to Fortress Monroe and disembark her stores and troops as speedily as possible. She will then take on coal and water and what supplies she needs with the utmost dispatch, and proceed at once on her route to New Orleans. The order of sailing already given will be in so far amended.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 26, 1864—2.10 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point:

Richmond Whig of to-day says:

WILMINGTON, *December 24.*

Seventy vessels of the enemy's fleet reported off Fort Fisher this morning. No demonstrations of landing yet. Weather mild. A Yankee gun-boat grounded last night near Fort Fisher and was blown up by the enemy.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 27, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Richmond papers of to-day announce the landing of our troops near Fort Fisher. I will get the papers in the course of an hour and send you full extracts.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 27, 1864.*

Col. R. C. WEBSTER,
Fort Monroe:

Lieutenant Porter, of my staff, left here yesterday on the River Queen with dispatches for General Butler, off Wilmington. I have heard from the fleet off that place and of the troops effecting a landing. You will communicate this to him, and say to him that it is not necessary for him to go farther, and that he will return to this place without delay.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following deserters from the enemy came into the lines of General Miles, Second Army Corps, last evening: One from

Twelfth Virginia Infantry, Weisiger's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Tenth Alabama Infantry, Forney's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Forty-eighth Georgia Infantry, Sorrel's brigade, Mahone's division; one from Eleventh North Carolina, MacRae's brigade, Heth's division; two from Seventh Tennessee Infantry, Archer's brigade, Heth's division. Also, from the Ninth Army Corps have been forwarded as follows: Two from Forty-sixth Virginia Infantry, Wise's brigade, Johnson's division. No changes reported in Hill's corps or Johnson's division; no positive information of the movements of any troops south except Hoke's division. One of informants states that he was at Burgess' Mill three days ago, at which time Gordon's division had not moved. The lieutenant that came in yesterday was positive both Pegram's and Gordon's divisions had gone to Wilmington. Nothing known of Rodes' or Kershaw's divisions. Information from City Point shows no change in Kershaw's division, now on General Ord's front, though there may have been a change. Therefore, with the exception of the lieutenant's statements yesterday, we have no evidence of any but Hoke's division having gone to Wilmington last Tuesday and Wednesday, as reported.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 27, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

No evidence of any but Hoke's division having gone to Wilmington, if we except the statement of the lieutenant deserter yesterday. Eight deserters to-day from Hill's corps and Johnson's division, one of whom was in Gordon's camp three days ago near Burgess' Mill. He had not then gone. Nothing further from Kershaw.

J. C. BABCOCK.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 27, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
Provost-Marshal, City Point:

I have a deserter in this a. m. who states that he belongs to Second South Carolina, Kershaw's division, and that none of it had left yesterday.

E. O. C. ORD,
Major-General of Volunteers.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 27, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Capt. C. L. DAVIS,
Acting Chief Signal Officer:

Have a partial view of the lines. No movement or changes observed.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 27, 1864—11.35 a. m.

Captain DAVIS:

Large camp of enemy on Boisseau's property, near the house—perhaps a brigade—has nearly all disappeared. Canvas tents still standing and roofs of log huts nearly all. Enemy's pickets busy connecting pits.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 27, 1864—4 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

All quiet this p. m. No changes observed during the day. At 3.30 p. m. a train of cars loaded with wood ran into Petersburg on the lower track. The following was intercepted:

2.10 P. M.

Major P.:

One train of thirteen box-cars and five flats, crowded on tops with men, have just passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left.

B. C.,
At D.

DUNN'S—2.40 p. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

During the fog I could not see for the last three days. At 1 p. m. a small boat came up the river and stopped at Cobb's. A small increase of tents at Point of Rocks. Steamer off Strahan's lower landing. Gun-boat in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 27, 1864.

Captain DAVIS,
Acting Chief Signal Officer:

At 11.15 a. m. two trains of cars passed westward on the South Side Railroad. At 1.50 p. m. one train on same road passed toward Petersburg. At 4.30 p. m. a train of eighteen wagons passed westward on Boydton road. The enemy have been strengthening their picket-line at different points from west around to a point a little east of north.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Signal Officer.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 469. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 27, 1864.

* * * * * * *

59. Bvt. Brig. Gen. Guy V. Henry, U. S. Volunteers, is, by direction of the President, hereby assigned to duty according to his brevet rank of brigadier-general.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
No. 351. } *December 27, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

7. The siege train of the armies operating against Richmond, commanded by Bvt. Brig. Gen. H. L. Abbot, having been permanently attached to this army by paragraph 2 of Special Orders, No. 156, of December 24, 1864, headquarters Armies of the United States, the same is assigned to the command of Brevet Major-General Hunt, chief of artillery.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 27, 1864. (Received 10.05 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

No changes in the disposition of this command since last report. Five deserters from the enemy came into our lines during the night. One of them states that Davis' brigade, Heth's division, went toward Lynchburg recently. He belongs to Mahone's division. We had a deserter from Davis' brigade a few days ago. Two of the deserters from Sorrel's brigade, Mahone's division, picketing opposite the extreme right of the Second Corps, state they had orders yesterday to fire upon every one they saw, but that the order was not enforced.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: General Miles suggests that the orders of General Grant, respecting the treatment of deserters from the enemy, be printed on very thin paper, and in high winds be let off from the signal stations. By that means they may find their way to the enlisted men of the Confederate Army. At present it is difficult to get them into their hands.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 27, 1864.

Maj. S. CARNCROSS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Corps:

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with circular from headquarters Second Army Corps, December 25, 1864, the picket-line of this division was extended from Vaughan road to Arthur's Swamp. The number of officers and men required to picket the line as now established is 17 officers and 530 men. No other changes have occurred since my last report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. DE TROBRIAND,
Brigadier-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 27, 1864. (Received 9.35 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired on the lines of this corps during the preceding twenty-four hours.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS TENTH VERMONT VOLUNTEERS,
December 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: I have the honor to report, in compliance with Special Orders 364, paragraph 7, headquarters Army of the Potomac, the following enlisted men of this command as entitled to medals of honor:

Samuel Greer, sergeant, Company C, Tenth Vermont Volunteers, distinguished himself by coolness and efficiency in withdrawing the skirmish line over the Monocacy River, July 9, 1864, after the main line had fallen back, remaining in the rear and exposing himself to secure the retreat over the iron bridge. Again at Winchester, September 19, 1864, on the skirmish line advancing before the last charge. Again at Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864, remaining in rear of line when retreating in the morning, exposed to very severe fire, turning and firing constantly. Although severely bruised in the shoulder while thus retreating, by a bullet which went through his knapsack, yet he remained with the company through the day. He has been in every battle of the campaign.

Patrick Gillouley, private, Company D. At Cedar Creek, October 19, 1864, three guns of Captain McKnight's battery having fallen into the enemy's hands, and the Tenth Vermont charging to recapture them, he was the first to reach the guns, except Sergeant Mahoney, regimental color bearer, and distinguished himself in working under a very severe fire to help draw the guns off by hand. Later on the same day, being severely bruised by a spent ball, on the leg, he remained with his company during the fight, and performed picket duty with them that night. He has been present with the company every day during the campaign, and in every battle has distinguished himself by coolness and marked gallantry.

Norton Danforth, private, Company K, at the battle of Opequon, September 19, 1864, was foremost in the charge on the rebel line in the morning, and captured a rebel captain far in advance of the line. At Fisher's Hill, September 22, 1864, was foremost in the charge which carried the whole works; captured four prisoners, whom he turned over to the provost guard, joining immediately after in the charge which drove the rebels from their last stand.

First Sergt. B. Brooks Clark, Company K, having become separated from his regiment during the retreat from Monocacy, July 9 and 10, 1864, captured near Mount Airy a rebel lieutenant, Lieutenant Maguire, of a Virginia cavalry regiment, and one private. The capture was made in a house within sight of the horses of a brigade of rebel cavalry. Sergeant Clark escaped with his prisoners to the woods, where he had left a companion, and although immediate pursuit was made, the enemy sometimes gaining sight of them, and using dogs to trace them, he succeeded in baffling his pursuers and bringing his prisoners safely to

Baltimore, where he delivered them to General Wallace's provost-marshal, and obtained a receipt for them. Lieutenant Maguire's sword was given to the sergeant by General Wallace. During one day of the pursuit by the rebels, Sergeant Clark's companion left him, and he guarded his two prisoners alone. Sergeant Clark was mortally wounded at the battle of Cedar Creek. If it can be allowed consistently with the rules under which these medals are granted, I would respectfully urge that it may be granted in this case, which may be sent to his family.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE B. DAMON,
Captain, Commanding Tenth Vermont Volunteers.

[First indorsement.]

HDQRS. FIRST BRIG., THIRD DIV., SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 29, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded approved.

WM. S. TRUEX,
Colonel, Commanding.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD DIVISION, SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
January 2, 1864 [*1865*].

Respectfully forwarded approved, and attention called to the case of Sergeant Clark, deceased.

T. SEYMOUR,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 27, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual along our lines. The experimental signal failed to bring over the deserters expected. But three men came in. They report extra vigilance on the part of their officers. The picket-firing was heavier than usual.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
Fort Monroe, December 27, 1864—8 p. m.
(Received 10 p. m.)

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

I have just returned from the expedition. We had a storm from Monday until Friday, which was the earliest hour I could get out of Beaufort, where I had put in for coal, most of the transport fleet having got out of coal and water. Without waiting for my return, Admiral Porter exploded the torpedo at 1 o'clock on Friday morning, and commenced his attack at 12.55 in the afternoon, twelve hours afterward. He continued the bombardment of the fort until night. I arrived in the evening and commenced landing on the beach the next morning. Got a portion on shore about 2 o'clock. Weitzel moved down upon the

works, capturing 300 men and 10 commissioned officers. He brought his picket-line within fifty yards of the work, where he was opened upon by canister and musketry. He found seventeen guns bearing upon the beach, which was only wide enough for an assault of 1,000 men in line, the guns protected by traverses and but one dismounted, notwithstanding the fire of the fleet had been opened upon them for five hours. In the meanwhile the surf had so arisen as to render further landing nearly impracticable. After a thorough reconnaissance of the work, finding it utterly impracticable for a land assault, and that at least two brigades of Hoke's division from before Richmond had arrived there and that the rest was on the road, I withdrew the forces and ordered a re-embarkment, and had got on board all of the troops with the exception of about 300, when the surf was so high as to prevent either getting on or off the shore. I lay by until morning and took measures for their relief as soon as the sea might go down. They were under cover of the gun-boats, and I have no doubt they are all safely off. Our loss when I left was but twelve wounded, ten of whom were by the shells of the navy on our picket-line near the fort. I will be up in the morning.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
December 27, 1864.

Rear-Admiral PORTER,
Commanding North Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

ADMIRAL: In my note to you on the evening of the 25th I made the statement, as it was reported to me, that "while the garrison were kept in their bomb-proofs by the fire of the navy three or four men of the picket-line ventured upon the parapet and through the sally-port of the work, capturing a horse, which they brought off, killing the orderly, who was the bearer of a dispatch from the chief of artillery of General Whiting to bring a light battery within the fort, and also brought away from the parapet the flag of the fort. This was done while the shells of the navy were falling about the heads of the daring men who entered the fort." I find, upon further examination, that I was incorrectly informed, and, of course, incorrectly reported the fact to you. The men did not enter the fort. They came upon the outer edge of the ditch and there obtained the flag, which was shot away the day before by the navy fire. The orderly was killed outside the fort and the horse taken there. I believe the truth is now, upon further examination, that nobody went into the fort. We had some twelve men wounded on the picket-line from the shells of the fleet. I make this correction because I think it is due to the truth of the narration of the events of the movement.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General, Commanding.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. } HDQRS. TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 27, 1864.

I. A furlough of thirty days and a reward of $30 will be paid any enlisted man who shall, through his commanders, furnish evidence to these headquarters of having arrested and placed in custody any one guilty of desertion or attempting to desert.

II. Enlisted men absent from their companies or from their post of duty for more than twenty-four hours without authority will be considered deserters, and must be reported by name on the field return to these headquarters.

III. The corps and division provost-marshals will provide themselves with and have on hand at all times one dozen pairs of handcuffs and shall erect suitable strong guard-houses for the safe custody of deserters until they can be shot. This order will be read at least once a day for a month at the head of each company.

By command of Bvt. Maj. Gen. A. H. Terry:

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, *December 28, 1864—5.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

If there be no objection, please tell me what you now understand of the Wilmington expedition, present and prospective.

A. LINCOLN.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 28, 1864—8.30 p. m.*
(Received 9.35 p. m.)

A. LINCOLN,
President of the United States:

The Wilmington expedition has proven a gross and culpable failure. Many of the troops are now back here. Delays and free talk of the object of the expedition enabled the enemy to move troops to Wilmington to defeat it. After the expedition sailed from Fort Monroe three days of fine weather was squandered, during which the enemy was without a force to protect himself. Who is to blame I hope will be known.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
December 28, 1864—3.30 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

The Navy Department has received two dispatches, which I have ordered to be sent to you. Fulton's dispatch indicates that Porter intends to continue the operations against Fort Fisher and hopes for success. Mr. Fox goes down this evening to Fortress Monroe to consult with you about sending additional troops.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 28, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: The following deserters from the enemy have been forwarded to-day: Two from Forty-fourth North Carolina, MacRea's bri-

gade, Heth's division; two from Forty-eighth Mississippi, Harris' brigade, Mahone's division; one from Thirty-fourth Virginia, Wise's brigade, Johnson's division; seven from Forty-third Alabama, Gracie's brigade, Johnson's division. No movements in any of the above divisions; rumors of a movement of part of Heth's and Wilcox's divisions; Davis' brigade, of Heth's division, and McGowan's brigade, of Wilcox's division, under marching orders. One of informants from the Forty-fourth North Carolina, MacRae's brigade, states that troops (infantry) were moving toward Petersburg on the Boydton plank road night before last; can give no other particulars. The troops under marching orders in Hill's corps had orders to be ready at a moment's warning.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

FRONT OF FORT HOWARD,
December 28, 1864—5 p. m.

Capt. C. L. DAVIS,
Chief Signal Officer, Army of the Potomac:

All quiet in the enemy's lines on this front. No change observed this day. Twenty-six wagons moved west and eleven east on the Cox road.

C. G. AIKEN,
Sergeant, Signal Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 28, 1864. (Received 5.40 p. m.)

Captain DAVIS,
Chief Signal Officer:

No change observed in enemy's camps since last report. The usual strengthening of works and picket-lines continues. A train of passenger-cars passed at 11.30 a. m.; train of twelve freight-cars, 12.15 p. m., and one of freight-cars at 2 p. m. All going toward Petersburg.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 28, 1864. (Received 10 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No change in the disposition of this command since last report. Four deserters from the enemy came into our lines during the night and one contraband yesterday.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Second Army Corps.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that nothing of importance has transpired on the lines of this corps during the preceding twenty-four hours.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 28, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing unusual along our lines. Six deserters from the Forty-third Alabama and one from Thirty-fourth Virginia have come in during the night.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
December 28, 1864.

Brigadier-General TURNER,
Chief of Staff:

GENERAL: The signal officer on Crow's Nest tower reports:

At 10 a. m. the enemy relieved with about 2,000 men the same number of their troops in the intrenchments on Chaffin's farm, and at 10.30 a. m. the latter crossed the pontoon bridge at Chaffin's Bluff, with three wagons and four ambulances, going toward their right.

Very respectfully, &c.,

L. B. NORTON,
Captain and Chief Signal Officer.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
December 28, 1864—11 a. m.

Major-General ORD:

I have just received the following dispatch:

Lieutenant TUCKERMAN,
Signal Officer:

Enemy on Chaffin's farm are preparing to attack. Have re-enforced their line by about 1,500.

AMSDEN,
Lieutenant.

C. A. HECKMAN,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. R. S. FOSTER,
Commanding First Division:

GENERAL: The enemy are reported by General Heckman as preparing to attack. Brevet Major-General Terry directs that you get your command under arms.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brig. Gen. Charles Devens, commanding Third Division, and Bvt. Brig. Gen. T. M. Harris, commanding First Division, Department of West Virginia.)

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 28, 1864.

Colonel MOON,
Corps Officer of the Day:

COLONEL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to inform you that he has received a dispatch informing him of a disposition on the part of the enemy to attack on Chaffin's farm. The general directs that a sharp lookout be kept, and any movement on the part of the enemy reported to these headquarters without delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 28, 1864.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM BIRNEY,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: Brig. Gen. C. A. Heckman directs that you dismiss your command, with instructions that regimental commanders keep their men well in hand and ready to fall in at a moment's notice.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS,
In the Field, Va., December 28, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General DRAPER,
Commanding Third Division:

GENERAL: I am directed by the brigadier-general commanding to inform you that one regiment from General Bates' command has been ordered to report to you. You will place them in reserve on your right near Fort Burnham.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. H. ABEL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *December 29, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point:

There are now in this depot over 2,000 serviceable artillery horses and over 1,000 cavalry horses for issue. There are over 10,000 other cavalry horses which will probably be fit for issue within sixty days, and about 1,000 which will answer for teams and ambulances. There are also some 2,000 in hospital, a part of which will be sold. There are also a considerable number in Northern depots which are kept there for convenience of forage. All approved requisitions from Sheridan's army, the Potomac, and the James have been filled. Sher-

man is abundantly supplied. The difficulty of procuring forage in the North and East is already creating serious apprehensions of a failure of supply before spring. Under these circumstances the Cavalry Bureau and Quartermaster-General strongly urge that purchases at the North and East be discontinued till spring. Those at the West and Northwest for Thomas and Canby's forces must go on. Moreover the Quartermaster-General has $50,000,000 of unpaid requisitions in the Treasury Department, and unless the greatest economy is practiced the demands of Government creditors cannot be met. If you have no objection the War Department will stop the purchases as requested by the Quartermaster-General.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 29, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

Major-General HALLECK,
Washington, D. C.:

By all means stop the purchase of horses in the East and curtail it in the West. Now that Hood is disposed of there will be less necessity for cavalry there than heretofore.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., December 29, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

The substance of dispatches and reports from Rear-Admiral Porter, off Wilmington, is briefly this: The ships can approach nearer to the enemy's works than was anticipated. Their fire can keep the enemy away from their guns. A landing can easily be effected upon the beach north of Fort Fisher, not only of troops, but all their supplies and artillery. This force can have its flanks protected by gun-boats. The navy can assist in the siege of Fort Fisher precisely as it covered the operations which resulted in the capture of Fort Wagner. The winter season is the most favorable for operations against Fort Fisher. The largest naval force ever assembled is ready to lend its co-operation. Rear-Admiral Porter will remain off Fort Fisher, continuing a moderate fire to prevent new works from being erected, and the ironclads have proved that they can maintain themselves in spite of bad weather. Under all these circumstances, I invite you to such a military co-operation as will insure the fall of Fort Fisher, the importance of which has already received your careful consideration. This telegram is made at the suggestion of the President, and in hopes that you will be able at this time to give the troops which heretofore were required elsewhere. If it cannot be done, the fleet will have to disperse, whence it cannot again be brought to this coast.

GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 29, 1864—12.15 p. m. (Sent 12.30 p. m.)

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

There was considerable firing, principally mortars, along the line of the Ninth Corps yesterday, it being kept up till 9 p. m. Twenty deserters from the enemy are this morning reported, but no information of any importance received from them.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Twenty-three deserters from the enemy have been forwarded to-day, representing as follows: Davis' and MacRae's brigades, of Heth's division; Finegan's and Forney's brigades, of Mahone's division; Gracie's and Ransom's brigades, of Johnson's division; Evans' brigade, of Gordon's division. No change whatever reported in the enemy's position; no foundation for the rumor that part of A. P. Hill's corps was under marching orders; Gordon's and Pegram's divisions are near Burgess' Mill, and doing picket duty about five miles southeast from camp along Hatcher's Run. Deserters from Evans' brigade, Gordon's division, report no movement of any part of those divisions; they are erecting winter quarters; greater part of cavalry near Belfield; Dearing's brigade here. One of informants reports the capture of Fort Fisher at Wilmington and its occupation by the Twenty-fourth Army Corps. Strength of regiments reported from 150 to 350; very few found of the latter strength. No conscripts coming in of late. One informant states that Rodes' division had been ordered back to Gordonsville, and was now moving in that direction; could give no particulars.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

P. S.—Information from City Point locates Kershaw's division beyond a doubt. It is on north side of James, and relieved Hoke when the latter left.

CITY POINT, *July 29, 1864.*

JOHN C. BABCOCK:

Men in. Agent left Richmond yesterday at 9 a. m.; went in on Tuesday by Charles City road; saw very few troops; not allowed to return by the same route, but came by a road nearer Chickahominy, four miles out, on which (from Richmond) saw large body of enemy's cavalry concentrating; two divisions of infantry crossed from Petersburg to north side during night before last. No troops have been sent to Early, who is not expected to return. Loss of four guns and about a regiment of prisoners admitted in Richmond night before last.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel.

DECEMBER 29, 1864.

J. C. BABCOCK,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

I have deserters here from Pickett, Field, and Kershaw. Pickett's brigades lie between the James and the Appomattox. Kershaw relieved Hoke when he left, and Field is also on north side of James. If you want to know anything about those divisions write me. Did you get a telegram from me this a. m., and can you answer the questions proposed?

SHARPE,
Colonel.

DECEMBER 29, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Gordon's and Pegram's divisions are on enemy's extreme right picketing along Hatcher's Run. This is positive. Deserters from them this a. m. Rodes' division (or the part of it lately arrived from Valley) is reported to have gone back as far as Gordonsville. Have written you at length.

J. C. BABCOCK.

DECEMBER 29, 1864.

Colonel SHARPE,
City Point:

Deserter from Gordon's old brigade, of Gordon's division, reports that Rodes' division is on its way back again to Gordonsville. No particulars.

J. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 29, 1864—3.10 p. m.

Captain DAVIS:

The camp on Boisseau's property, reported deserted day before yesterday, has been re-occupied by a brigade of infantry who are fixing up the quarters to stop. They came from the direction of Petersburg and were followed by eight ambulances.

I. THICKSTUN,
Captain and Acting Signal Officer.

HDQRS. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, SIGNAL DEPARTMENT,
December 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: I have the honor to state that the signal station near the Friend house reports that at 10.30 a. m. about 1,500 infantry moved into Petersburg on Richmond pike. The station at the Avery house reports the smoke of an engine seen at 8.15 a. m. moving to the left on South Side Railroad. The other stations report all quiet and no changes.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. STRYKER,
First Lieutenant, Signal Corps, Adjutant.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 29, 1864—4.30 p. m.

Capt. C. L. DAVIS,
Chief Signal Officer:

Small working parties are building traverses midway between lead-works and large fort. Enemy had trucks on the Weldon railroad to-day hauling toward Petersburg, from vicinity of lead-works, what appeared to be ties and railroad iron.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 29, 1864.

Lieut. W. S. STRYKER,
Adjutant:

3 P. M.

A train of twenty-two black-covered wagons moved into Petersburg on road near Richmond pike.

JORDAN.

A train of fifteen wagons moved to the left on Pocahontas road at 12 m. A new gun appeared to-day in middle line of works, in line with large camp left of lead-works. No other change noticed to-day.

MARCY.

All quiet this p. m. The following was intercepted:

"10 A. M.

"Major P.:

"Exclusive of special report there have passed in rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, forty wagons; rear of same battery, going toward City Point, four trains—one of ten box and one of eight box and four flats, one of twelve box, and one of nine box and five flats; also forty-five wagons.

"W.,
"*Sergeant, at D.*"

"Colonel B.:

"In this front all quiet this a. m.

"DUNN'S.

"All quiet; gun-boat in same position.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"12.30 P. M.

"Colonel B.:

"Ambulances have been carrying men to Strahan's upper landing for one hour. A large steamer and tug just went down the river, supposed to be loaded with sick.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"STEUART'S FRONT—2.30 a. m.

"Colonel B.:

"No change in enemy's camps on this side of James. Small increase of tents on Signal Hill last night. At 10 a. m. seven companies of infantry drilled behind Battery A; continued until near noon and disappeared. One company of infantry drilled some time, rear of Battery C. Twenty wagons went up the river and fifteen down during the day.

"R.,
"*Sergeant, at C.*

("Same to A. B.")

"Major P.:

"Evening report: There have passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, three trains—one of fifteen box and one of eight box and five flats, also fifteen wagons; rear of same, going toward City Point, two trains—one of ten box and four flats, one of thirteen box, and also nineteen wagons.

"W.,
"*Sergeant, at D.*"

H. W. HOLMAN.

Respectfully forwarded.

J. C. PAINE,
Captain and Signal Officer.

PLANK ROAD SIGNAL STATION,
December 29, 1864—12 m.

Capt. C. L. DAVIS,
Chief Signal Officer:

At 11.20 a. m. a scattering column of infantry appeared coming from the direction of Petersburg and disappeared on Boydton plank road, moving toward our left; numbered about 800, and were followed by six ambulances and seven wagons.

A. K. C[AROTHERS],
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 473. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Washington, December 29, 1864.

* * * * * * *

21. By direction of the President the following officers are hereby assigned to duty according to their brevet rank: Brevet major-generals, U. S. Volunteers—Henry J. Hunt, Orlando B. Willcox, R. B. Potter, Nelson A. Miles, S. W. Crawford, Charles Griffin, Romeyn B. Ayres, David McM. Gregg, George W. Getty, Frank Wheaton, J. J. Bartlett. Brevet brigadier-generals, U. S. Volunteers—C. S. Wainwright, H. A. Morrow, J. Irvin Gregg, J. W. Hofmann, C. H. Smith, John C. Tidball, Fred. Winthrop, G. N. Macy, A. W. Denison, N. B. McLaughlen, J. Warren Keifer, W. H. Penrose, Joseph E. Hamblin, H. G. Sickel, Robert McAllister, John Ramsey. Brevet colonel, U. S. Army—J. C. Duane. Brevet colonels, U. S. Volunteers—Ralph Ely, Percy Daniels, Thomas Wilson, Byron M. Cutcheon, Charles P. Herring. Brevet lieutenant-colonel, U. S. Army—T. A. McParlin. Brevet lieutenant-colonels, U. S. Volunteers—J. G. Hazard, Ellis Spear, Henry O'Neill. Brevet majors, U. S. Army—W. W. Swan, W. W. Sanders. Brevet majors, U. S. Volunteers—George Lockley, George Shorkley, A. H. Merritt, C. H. Salter, A. W. Clark, J. C. Farwell, Robert A. Hutchins, Silas J. Marlin, J. D. Bertolette, Samuel Wright. Brevet captain, U. S. Army—J. W. Roder. Brevet captains, U. S. Volunteers—A. E. Fernald, Benjamin F. Conlin, J. D. Black. Brevet first lieutenant, U. S. Army—William B. Beck.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 47. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *December 29, 1864.*

The following extract from General Orders, No. 27, of March 14, 1863, from these headquarters, is republished for general information:

IX. Scouting parties and pickets will exercise a wise discretion in the arrest of citizens peacefully remaining at home. Such persons will not be brought within the lines of this army, unless upon proof sufficient to warrant their being taken into custody; and in all cases the witnesses, or a statement showing their names and places of residence, will accompany the parties held as prisoners.

The repeated instances which have happened of late of the failure of officers to comply with the foregoing order have occasioned much embarrassment, and, hereafter, provost-marshals will not receive citizens sent to them as prisoners, unless the arrested parties are accompanied by such information as will admit of their cases being intelligently disposed of. Provost-marshals will promptly report to these headquarters the names of all officers who may send citizens to them under guard without the information herein required.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 29, 1864. (Received 10.10 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of this command since last report. Eighteen deserters from the enemy came into our lines last night; also a colored woman and child.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 29, 1864. (Received 8.45 a. m.)

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Nothing of importance has occurred in this command during the twenty-four hours last past.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General.

HDQRS. FOURTEENTH REGIMENT NEW JERSEY VOLUNTEERS,
December 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

SIR: I have the honor to report the names of two enlisted men of my command for conspicuous gallantry in compliance with Special Orders, No. 364, dated headquarters Army of the Potomac, December 22, 1864.

First. Sergt. John Grover, jr., Company F. At the battle of Cold Harbor, Va., June 1, 1864, he, in advance of the line, with two others, dashed into the rebel works, taking prisoners to the number of fifty, sending them to the rear, at the time within forty yards of the rebel line of battle, that was advancing at a double quick. He sprang forward from the works and rejoined his regiment unharmed. At the

battle of Monocacy, Md., July 9, 1864; at the battle of Winchester, Va., September 19, 1864; Fisher's Hill, Va., September 22, 1864, and at the battle of Cedar Creek, Va., he displayed consummate bravery, and, in my estimation, no braver or more worthy soldier is in the army.

Second. Corpl. James Chaffey, Company F, Fourteenth Regiment New Jersey Volunteers. At the battle of Cold Harbor, Va., June 1, 1864, while on the charge at dusk was some distance in advance of our main line; as we advanced we changed the direction a little to the left; Corporal Chaffey dashed on, found himself within the enemy's lines; nerving himself to break through or die in the attempt, he started for our lines; he shot one and brought the other in as prisoner. At the battle of Monocacy, Md., July 9, 1864, while the fight was at its height, his captain said to him, "Do you see that rebel color? Do you think you can lower it?" He spoke immediately, "I'll try." He advanced to within thirty yards of the rebel line, raised his gun, shooting the rebel color bearer, then coolly returned to his regiment, fighting bravely until we were ordered to fall back. His behavior was conspicuous at the battle of Winchester, where he was wounded, but remained but a day or two at hospital; also at the battle of Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864, he behaved with consummate bravery.

I also have the honor to state that in the numerous engagements in which the regiment has participated, the casualties among the brave and heroic have been so many that those who have survived and have proven themselves worthy, have already been rewarded by promotion. A few men here have been omitted, but the record of their special acts of bravery is not sufficiently explicit and marked to warrant the recommendation for a special medal of honor. The truly brave of our regiment in many instances have fallen in the strife, and it is too late now to reward them in the manner proposed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. J. JANEWAY,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding Regiment.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 29, 1864.

General S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

There was much more firing than usual along our lines yesterday. The cannonading was kept up for some hours after dark. It was mainly mortar practice. The enemy seemed to open mortars from new positions and required much practice before getting the ranges. Two deserters from Fifty-ninth Alabama have been reported.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 29, 1864—10 p. m. (Sent 10.10 p. m.)

Major-General PARKE:

I leave to-morrow to be absent for a short time. During my absence the command will devolve on you. Please come up during the morning and take charge.

GEO. G. MEADE,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 29, 1864.

Brevet Brigadier-General HARRIS,
Commanding First Division, Army of West Virginia:

GENERAL: I am instructed by the major-general commanding the corps to say that, as it is probable the troops of the Second Division will return to-morrow, you will have to vacate the camp formerly occupied by General Curtis' command and select a new position. For more detailed instructions, will you please come over, or send a staff officer to these headquarters.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

THEODORE READ,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NORFOLK, VA., *December 29, 1864.*

Major-General BUTLER,
Headquarters Army of the James:

The Chamberlain arrived this morning. Captain Fitch reports that all the troops were embarked by 2.30 p. m. Wednesday, but one man being drowned. Just before leaving it was reported that 6,000 rebels came down to make an attack, but the fire of the gun-boats induced them to think better of it. Captains Fitch and Bleadenhiser and the men of the Naval Brigade acted with great industry and skill. The boats of the navy co-operated heartily. I trust you will mention Captain Fitch honorably for his highly meritorious conduct. Lieutenant De Kay returned in the Chamberlain. I leave for New York this afternoon.

CHAS. K. GRAHAM,
Brigadier-General.

CITY POINT, *December 30, 1864—10.30 a. m.*
(Received 11.50 a. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

Your dispatch* of 9.30 last evening just received. I will answer fully in a few hours. Troops have all returned and transports dispersed.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 30, 1864—12 m.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War, Washington:

I have ordered the chief quartermaster to reassemble at Fortress Monroe all the transports used by Butler, and additional ones sufficient to carry 1,500 men, 8,000 in all, and to have them fueled and watered to their fullest capacity for carrying troops. He thinks it can be done by Monday morning. Not a person here knows the object of this but myself, chief of staff, and cipher operator, who has to know it, of course. It will not be known to another. When all is ready I will

* See Welles to Grant, 9.30 p. m. December 29, p.1091.

send the troops and commander selected to Fortress Monroe and out to sea with sealed instructions not to be opened until they pass the Heads. I would advise that Admiral Porter simply be directed to hold on as he is until he receives further orders from the Department. You will understand why I would say no more. I am in hopes by secrecy the enemy may be lulled into such security as to induce him to send his Wilmington forces against Sherman, or bring them back here by the time we are ready to start. There will be no delay on the part of troops.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 30, 1864—2 p. m.*
(Received 7 p. m.)

Hon. EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The accompanying dispatch* was received over your signature and answered; subsequently a dispatch from operator was received stating that it should have been signed G. Welles, Secretary of the Navy. It is all right, however, for I do not propose to correspond with the Navy Department about military operations except through you. My first dispatch gives all that I would advise should be said to the Secretary of the Navy for the present. I will say to Mr. Welles that I will advise with you about further operations against Wilmington and he can get his information from you.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WASHINGTON CITY, *December 30, 1864—9 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Your dispatch of 12 noon to-day just received, and I am rejoiced at its indications. No living man shall know anything upon the subject from me except the Secretary of the Navy. I would suggest an express from you to Porter to let him know at the earliest possible moment what to expect before he leaves.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
December 30, 1864—10 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

Ingalls' requisition upon Meigs for the return of the transportation will, of course, set him and all the thousand and one guessers at work to nose out the object. You cannot count upon any secrecy in the Navy. Newspaper reporters have the run of that Department. Might it not throw them off to give out here confidentially that the troops are going to Sherman to enable him to march through the interior and garrison important points or else to attack Mobile?

E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

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* See Welles to Grant, 9.30 p. m. December 29, p. 1091.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 30, 1864—11 p. m.*
(Received 11.45 p. m.)

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

I will write and dispatch to Porter to go off to-night.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, December 30, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT:

Major Casey, a very intelligent officer of Engineers, was detailed to observe and report on the torpedo explosion. He seems a wide-awake man, and to have used his time profitably in acquiring information of the localities. If you have not seen him he may be useful to you. Shall I send him to see you?

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, December 30, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT,
General-in-Chief of U. S. Armies:

SIR: I transmit herewith a copy of the joint resolution of thanks to you when a major-general of the Army, passed by the Senate and House of Representatives, and approved by the President, December 17, 1863.* The gold medal voted you in the same resolution would be presented at the same time if its preparation had been committed to the charge of the Department.

I am, &c.,

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 30, 1864—2 p. m.*
(Received 7 p. m.)

Hon. GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy:

Your dispatch 9.30 p. m. 29th received. I will advise fully with the Secretary of War about what you propose. Please call on him for information.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 30, 1864.*

Admiral PORTER,
Commanding North Atlantic Blockading Squadron:

Please hold on where you are for a few days and I will endeavor to be back again with an increased force and without the former commander. It is desirable the enemy should be lulled into all the security

* See Vol. XXXI, Part II, p. 52.

possible, in hopes he will send back here or against Sherman the re-enforcements sent to defend Wilmington. At the same time it will be necessary to observe that the enemy does not intrench further, and if he attempts it to prevent it. I will suggest whether it may not be made to appear that the ordinary blockading squadron is doing this. You, however, understand this matter much better than I do. I cannot say what day our troops will be down. Your dispatch to the Secretary of the Navy, which informed me that you were still off Wilmington, and still thought the capture of that place practicable, was only received to-day. I took immediate steps to have transports collected, and am assured they will be ready with the coal and water on board by noon of the 2d of January. There will be [no] delay in embarking and sending off the troops. There is not a soul here except my chief of staff, assistant adjutant-general, and myself knows of this intended renewal of our effort against Wilmington. In Washington but two persons know of it, and, I am assured, will not. The commander of the expedition will probably be Major-General Terry. He will not know of it until he gets out to sea. He will go with sealed orders. It will not be necessary for me to let troops or commander know even that they are going any place until the steamers intended to carry them reach Fortress Monroe, as I will have all rations and other stores loaded beforehand. The same troops that were with the first expedition, re-enforced by a brigade, will be sent now. If they effect a lodgment they can at least fortify and maintain themselves until re-enforcements can be sent. Please answer by bearer and designate when you will have the fleet congregated.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 30, 1864.

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, City Point, Va.:

Our scouts visited the old man last night, and returned this morning with report that re-enforcements (supposed to be part of one division and a brigade from another) were sent from Richmond to Hood on Wednesday last. Early remains at Staunton, with no change in his numbers.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 30, 1864.*
(Received 7 p. m.)

Col. GEORGE D. WISE,
Quartermaster-General's Office:

Lieutenant-General Grant wishes sea-going vessels to be assembled at once at Fortress Monroe, prepared with coal and water, for, say, fifteen days for 8,000 troops. The vessels just used in the Butler expedition will form a part, and I have given the necessary orders. Please see that some additional ones are ordered there at once. I wish them all assembled and in readiness on or before Monday, the 2d of January.

RUFUS INGALLS,
Brigadier-General and Chief Quartermaster.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 30, 1864.*
(Received 2.35 p. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Did the troops received from General Butler in exchange for Ferrero's division bring with them their land transportation?

Respectfully,

T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 30, 1864. (Sent 3.15 p. m.)

Lieut. Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I am informed that the troops received from General Butler in exchange for Ferrero's division brought with them their regimental transportation according to the allowance prescribed in Special Orders, No. 44, of June 28, 1864, headquarters Armies of the United States. In the exchange of troops supply wagons and ambulances were neither sent nor received.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 30, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Col. T. S. BOWERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General,
Headquarters Armies of the United States, City Point, Va.:

The strength of the Provisional Brigade that joined the Ninth Corps from the Army of the James was at the time of joining 199 commissioned officers and 4,445 enlisted men; 252 enlisted men have since joined from detached service.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 30, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. G. MEADE,
Commanding Army of the Potomac:

GENERAL: Eleven deserters from the enemy examined to-day, representing Weisiger's and Sorrel's brigades, of Mahone's division; MacRae's brigade, of Heth's division, and Lane's brigade, of Wilcox's division. No change reported in Hill's corps; 200 men from Mahone's division are sent out on picket every forty-eight hours; seven from every company are sent out from Wilcox's division every twenty-four hours. It is generly understood that Mahone will relieve Wilcox on the 1st of January,

1865, and the troops will exchange quarters. Chambliss', Young's, and Barringer's brigades of cavalry are at or near Belfield; the railroad is being repaired this side of that point, and cavalry details are at work on it. Dearing's brigade is camped near Burgess' Mill and picket on immediate right (enemy's right) of infantry. No information going to show that anything but Hoke's division has left this army for Wilmington.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December 30, 1864—4 p. m.

Captain PAINE:

All quiet this p. m. No change to report. The following was intercepted:

STEUART'S FRONT—11 a. m.

Colonel B[RENT]:

No change since last report. All quiet in our front.

From C: "Small increase of tents in camp to left of open space. Two steamers off Strahan's upper landing. Gun-boat above Port Walthall."

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

11.30 A. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A large steamer just left Strahan's upper landing and gone down the river.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

12.40 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

A small steamer just passed down the river.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

2.30 P. M.

Colonel B[RENT]:

I noticed the usual drilling this morning behind Battery A. Working party again engaged on new battery and to our right of C. At 11 a. m. two regiments of infantry drilled in open field on north side of the James River. Nothing unusual at Dutch Gap. Very few wagons have passed during the day.

From Dunn's: "Steamer went up the river and returned in about an hour."

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

3.15.

Major P.:

Evening report: There have passed rear of Battery 5, going toward enemy's left, three trains—one of eight box-cars, the others of very few boxes, and twenty-five wagons. Rear of same battery, going toward City Point, three small trains and twenty wagons.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 354. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *December 30, 1864.*

1. The following-named officers will accompany the major-general commanding to Philadelphia: Bvt. Maj. F. M. Bache, Bvt. Maj. George Meade, Bvt. Maj. William Jay.

2. During the absence (temporary) of the major-general commanding, the command of this army devolves upon Maj. Gen. J. G. Parke, the senior officer present.

By command of Major-General Meade:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 30, 1864. (Received 10.33 a. m.)

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes in the disposition of this command since last report. Seven deserters from the rebel army came into our lines during the night and one yesterday morning, who was not included in the eighteen reported yesterday.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 30, 1864. (Received 9.55 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS:

Nothing worthy of report for the last twenty-four hours.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 30, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. G. GRIFFIN,
Commanding Second Division:

GENERAL: I have the honor to inform you that owing to the absence of Major-General Meade the command of the army devolves upon General Parke, and that Brevet Major-General Willcox takes command of this corps.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. M. LYDIG,
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS,
December 30, 1864.

Major-General ORD:

The brigade of General Harris' division on Bermuda front has been ordered to report to you. It will not, however, be over before day after to-morrow. The general commanding directs to place it in reserve.

JNO. W. TURNER,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Staff.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 25. } HDQRS. TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS, ARMY OF THE JAMES, *In the Field, December 30, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

III. Brigadier-General Ames, with his command, is hereby relieved from duty with the Expeditionary Corps and will report to Brevet Major-General Terry, commanding the Twenty-fourth Army Corps.

By order of Major-General Weitzel:

D. D. WHEELER,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S, *December 30, 1864.*

General TURNER:

Colonel Ward's brigade will be relieved at once and will report to their command to-night. The other brigade will be relieved as the troops arrive.

E. FERRERO,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA., ARMY OF THE JAMES, *December 30, 1864.*

Col. H. C. WARD,
Comdg. Third Brig., Second Div., Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

COLONEL: You will at once, on the receipt of this order, proceed with your command and report to Major-General Weitzel, commanding the Twenty-fifth Army Corps, Army of the James. You will take your baggage, camp and garrison equipage, &c. You will give strict orders to have your camps left unmolested, and as clean as possible, as they will be occupied by the troops relieving you. Regimental commanders will be held personally responsible that this order is complied with. Your pickets will be relieved this p. m. by a detail from the troops relieving you, and you will order your brigade officer of the day to remain and assist the new command in relieving them, and as soon as they are relieved to proceed to rejoin you.

By order of Brevet Major-General Ferrero:

GEO. A. HICKS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, December 31, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieutenant-General GRANT,
City Point, Va.:

I learn, from a letter of General Foster, that all able-bodied negroes brought in by Sherman are to be shipped to City Point. Permit me to suggest that they be armed, organized, and used in the Department of the South during the winter. Our experience is that negroes brought north during the cold weather from a warm climate are almost useless. Moreover, they suffer very much from cold. To send them north at the present time would create a panic among them, and prevent others

from coming in from the interior of the country. Rebel papers are already harping on this point, in order to frighten their slaves. The Secretary of War and General Meigs concur in these views.

H. W. HALLECK,
Major-General and Chief of Staff.

CITY POINT, VA., *December 31, 1864.*

Hon. E. M. STANTON,
Secretary of War:

The chief commissary goes from here this morning to Fortress Monroe to provision the steamers collecting there, as I had given directions. His guess as to object was that steamers were going to Sherman's army to bring them here. He has not yet received any orders and does not even know that steamers are being collected. I will instruct him to say confidentially that he thinks we are either sending for Sherman or that we are going to re-enforce him, inclining to the latter opinion.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 31, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. U. S. GRANT:

The following report has been received from Major-General Wright, commanding Sixth Corps:

HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY CORPS,
December 31, 1864—10.30 a. m.

Brigadier-General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The enemy made an attack upon the picket-line on my front this morning at about 5 o'clock, on the left of the First Division and right of the Third, and succeeded in killing two men and wounding three. Thirty-seven men are reported missing. The line was very soon established as before and all has been quiet since.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General, Commanding.

JNO. G. PARKE,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
BUREAU OF INFORMATION,
December 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

GENERAL: Twenty-three deserters from the enemy came in last evening. They represent MacRae's brigade, of Heth's division; Scales' brigade, of Wilcox's division; Harris', Weisiger's, and Sorrel's brigades, of Mahone's division, and Wallace's, Wise's, and Gracie's brigades, of Johnson's division. No changes or movements are reported. All that can be learned of the affair last evening is that a part of McGowan's brigade, about a regiment or less, relieved Young's battalion of sharpshooters, of Scales' brigade, and the latter made a dash upon our picket-

line early this a. m.; no other reason is given for the attack than it was expected a sufficient number of overcoats, shoes, and blankets would be captured to pay for the undertaking; of these articles they were sadly in need; some of them were barefooted.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. C. BABCOCK.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
OFFICE OF PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
December 31, 1864—7.30 p. m.

Col. GEORGE H. SHARPE,
City Point:
(Or to General Patrick.)

One J. R. Foster, Twenty-sixth North Carolina, deserter from the enemy, sent to City Point this p. m., is said to have important information in regard to an intended attack on the Second Corps picket-line to-night. The commanding general desires that he be examined on this point and the result of the examination telegraphed to him at once.

J. C. BABCOCK.

CITY POINT, *December 31, 1864—9.15 p. m.*

JOHN C. BABCOCK,
Headquarters Army of the Potomac:

I have examined all the deserters who came in to-day with reference to your dispatch. The man referred to, J. R. Foster, Twenty-sixth North Carolina, says he knows nothing about the matter; that he heard no such rumor, and that he has told no such story since he has come into our lines. A. G. Melton, Twenty-sixth South Carolina, Evans' old brigade, says it was a rumor in camp before he left that "General Lee was going to surprise the United States on New Year's Day;" that he knows no fact for the rumor to rest upon; that some thought General Lee was going to make peace, as the privates understand that he has entire control now. He says it was talked about more jocosely than otherwise. I have examined him carefully and am satisfied he knows nothing more than the above. Others who came in to-day knew of the skirmish line being relieved last night in order that the skirmishers might make a dash on some part of the line last night, and have told this story since they came in.

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST-MARSHAL-GENERAL,
ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, VA.,
City Point, December 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, &c.:

GENERAL: By our scouts from the Chickahominy last night we have received a written communication from an agent in Richmond, much of which is only strongly corroborative of our own information, but is repeated here in order to show the value of the whole. Our Richmond

agent describes generally the enemy's line on the south side of the Appomattox, and says that Gordon's division is on the extreme right, it being about six to eight miles beyond Petersburg. Our own information from the enemy's cavalry lately having been meager, we have asked our Richmond friends to give us something definite in regard to it, and they send us word that the cavalry force at Belfield numbers from 6,000 to 7,000 men, and is under the command of Wade Hampton, who is there personally. This comprises all the enemy's cavalry in our vicinity, with the exception of Dearing's brigade, which pickets the right of the enemy's line beyond Gordon's division, and Gary's brigade, which we presume to be doing the same duty on the left of the enemy's line. We have had, however, little or no information from the north side of the James River of late. The enemy's cavalry at Belfield are principally engaged in repairing the railroad and in getting something for their horses to eat. The following is sent in answer to information asked for from headquarters Army of the Potomac:

The railroad from Dunlop's Station, on the Petersburg and Richmond road, is graded to Ettricks, above Campbell's Bridge, at the extreme end of Old street. On one mile of this road the track is laid, commencing at Dunlop's. It is contemplated to run this road across the South Side above Petersburg through to Stony Creek. Hoke's division is the only one sent south from General Lee's army, it being the largest and best division in his command.

It is understood that Early's force left north of Richmond is about 8,000, including infantry and cavalry, the greater portion of it being cavalry. Hunton's brigade, of Pickett's division, which went to Gordonsville on our late advance in that direction, has returned to its position. It is said to have arrived in Gordonsville only one hour before Torbert appeared in front of the town. Our Richmond friends send us word that the railroad men there and elsewhere in the South have established a line with their rebel sympathizers North for the purpose of getting tin, brass, copper, and other necessaries for repairs to their engines. They say that the stuff is brought in small boats up the Blackwater, but as yet can give us no more definite information in regard to the route. The prospective evacuation of Richmond is a rumor again current among the plain classes in the town. It is said that Jeff. Davis' brother or brother-in-law, from the Southwest, is now with him urging such a step. No facts are given to substantiate the rumor. Gold, which touched fifty for one, on the capture of Savannah, is still rising.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE H. SHARPE,
Colonel, &c.

WALTHALL SIGNAL STATION,
December [*31*], *1864—5 p. m.*

Captain PAINE,
Signal Officer:

All quiet in this front this p. m. I think the message forwarded at 10.25 a. m. was practice between the stations. The following has been intercepted:

11.25 A. M.

Colonel B.:

From Dunn's: One company of infantry just passed open space, going toward Point of Rocks. Five wagons passed same place, going in same direction. Gunboat off Port Walthall.

From Steuart's front: No change visible on this side of the James. A working party, mostly negroes, lively engaged in works between Batteries C and D. The pickets in our front are negroes, and consequently there is a brisk sharpshooting all along the line. Last night one regiment of infantry passed Dutch Gap, going up the river.

STEUART'S FRONT—2 p. m.

No change has been observed since last report. The enemy's artillery opened on our lines at 10 a. m., and have been firing rapidly since. Our guns replied immediately. The shooting was as close as possible.

Sergeant R., at C, was wounded in the head; was shot by a piece of shell. He had a very narrow escape, but is not disabled from duty.

S.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

3.50 P. M.

Major P.:

There has passed rear of Battery 5, going toward City Point, nineteen wagons, and two pieces of artillery; near same battery, going toward enemy's left, one train of cars; tops covered with troops. One regiment of infantry drilled in rear of Battery 5 from 10 a. m. till 3.30 p. m.

W.,
Sergeant, at D.

DUNN'S—4.10 P. M.

Colonel B.:

Heavy skirmishing is going on in our front. One regiment of infantry passed open space, going toward front in Chesterfield. One regiment of infantry drawn up in line near Point of Rocks. They have been there thirty minutes. Steamer just came up the river and stopped at Strahan's lower landing. Gun-boat in same position.

R.,
Sergeant, at C.

(Same to A. B.)

H. W. HOLMAN,
Sergeant.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 476. } WAR DEPT., ADJT. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Washington, December 31, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

52. The instructions given Maj. William R. Driver, assistant adjutant-general of volunteers, contained in his letter of appointment, directing him to report to Brevet Major-General Mott, U. S. Volunteers, commanding Third Division, Second Army Corps, for assignment to duty, is hereby so modified as to direct him to report to Major-General Meade, U. S. Army, commanding Army of the Potomac, for assignment to duty.

* * * * * * *

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 356. } HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, *December 31, 1864.*

1. Leave of absence is granted the following-named officers:

* * * * * * *

Maj. Gen. G. K. Warren, U. S. Volunteers, for fifteen days.

* * * * * * *

By command of Major-General Parke:

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CITY POINT, *December 31, 1864—11.10 a. m.*

Major-General PARKE:

To the end that our men may spend a quiet New Year's Day, direct that there be no firing to-morrow, except in reply to guns from the enemy. The usual vigilance, however, is to be preserved.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenent-General.

(Same to Major-General Butler.)

Sent to all corps and independent commanders for their information and guidance.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 31, 1864. (Received at 10.30 a. m.)

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

No changes have occurred in the disposition of this command since last report. Ten rebel deserters came into our lines last night. Three men of the Sixty-fourth New York deserted to the enemy.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 31, 1864—5.10 p. m.

Brig. Gen. S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of the Potomac:

A deserter who came in last night and was forwarded by my provost-marshal this a. m., giving his name as Foster, Twenty-sixth North Carolina Regiment, is reported to have said that the enemy meditates a dash on my picket-line to-night or to-morrow. I would suggest that he be examined on this point.

A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Major-General, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 31, 1864—7 p. m. (Sent 7.50 p. m.)

Maj. Gen. A. A. HUMPHREYS,
Commanding Second Corps:

Your dispatch in relation to the statement of Foster, Twenty-sixth North Carolina Regiment, as to a contemplated attack on your picket-lines, was referred to Mr. Babcock with instructions to examine Foster upon that point. Mr. Babcock states that Foster has been sent to City Point, but that in his examination to-day he gave no information respecting the reported demonstration. Mr. Babcock will be directed to have Foster questioned at City Point about the matter.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
December 31, 1864—7.30 p. m.

COMMANDING OFFICER SECOND CORPS:

Inasmuch as General Meade before his departure promised General Warren a leave of absence, and as the commanding general does not feel at liberty to authorize two corps commanders to be absent at the same time, he has granted General Warren a leave for fifteen days. He hopes, however, that the leave you have applied for can be granted about the middle of the month of January.

S. WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. THIRD BRIG., FIRST DIV., SECOND ARMY CORPS,
December 31, 1864.

Major BROWN, *Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: Captain Reid, acting brigade inspector, who has just returned from the picket-line of this brigade, reports that during the firing by the enemy this morning several bullets struck inside our line, in the line of the Seventh New York Volunteers and Fifty-second New York Volunteers, although the parties firing could not be seen from that portion of the line. Our pickets did not return the fire. The number of shots fired and the manner in which they came (they report to me) seem to indicate that the affair was on purpose.

Very respectfully,

C. D. MACDOUGALL,
Colonel, Commanding Brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, SIXTH CORPS,
December 31, 1864.

Maj. C. A. WHITTIER, *Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Sixth Corps:*

MAJOR: I have the honor to report that an attack on that portion of the picket-line of this division covered by the Third Brigade and left of the First Brigade was made at about 5 a. m. to-day by a force of rebels variously estimated from 100 to 300. It was much darker than usual at the hour of the attack, and, of course, the strength of the enemy's force could only be approximately estimated. Last night a deserter came through the picket-line and informed Captain Thurber, Second Rhode Island Volunteers, division officer of the day, that an attack was contemplated by the rebel pickets. He heard his captain speak of it to another officer shortly before he deserted to our lines. The division officer of the day promptly made use of this information and warned his line, which was prepared for the attack. The utter darkness made it impossible to distinguish anything, and some confusion ensued. The rebels got in between our third and fourth picket-posts from the left of this division line. But five posts on the line were disturbed, though the attack covered some twenty posts. The division officer of the day says the whole affair did not last two minutes. On account of the darkness and storm at the time it was impossible to procure the requisite information and report of casualties until this hour: In First Brigade, missing ten (Fourth New Jersey); in Third Brigade, wounded, three (slightly), missing, six (Eighty-second Pennsylvania Volunteers). Arrangements will be made by placing abatis in front of the line and slashing at a certain point to make the line more secure from attacks in the dark. The line is quite strong enough now for anything that may occur in

daylight. With the exception of one officer, a second lieutenant, who has just entered the service and had never before heard an enemy's shot, I believe all the troops concerned behaved well, and thwarted a well-formed plan of the rebels to accomplish very much more than they succeeded in doing. The attack on my front was immediately after the attack on the Third Division front. The conduct of the officer referred to above will be promptly and thoroughly investigated. He is reported to have come to our main line and stated that all the division pickets were captured. He, however, returned to his post immediately after.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANK WHEATON,
Brevet Major-General, U. S. Volunteers.

HEADQUARTERS NINTH ARMY CORPS,
December 31, 1864.

General WILLIAMS,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report that six privates Thirty-fourth Virginia came over last night. They report that they have had no meat ration for two days, and that it is the camp rumor that Fort Fisher and Bald Head Island have fallen into our hands.

O. B. WILLCOX,
Major-General.

HDQRS. DEPT. OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
In the Field, December 31, 1864.

Lieutenant-General GRANT, *City Point:*

We propose to explode the heading of Dutch Gap at 11 a. m. to-morrow. I should be happy to see yourself and friends at headquarters. We must be near the time because of the tide.

BENJ. F. BUTLER,
Major-General.

CITY POINT, *December 31, 1864.*

General BUTLER:

Do not wait for me in your explosion. I doubt my ability to be up in the morning.

U. S. GRANT,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS,
December 31, 1864.

General TURNER:

The state of the roads is such that [it] is almost impossible to move troops and the weather such as to make them most uncomfortable on arriving in a new camp. I, therefore, suggest that unless there are strong reasons why General Harris' brigade should come from Bermuda to-day that its movement should be postponed.

ALF. H. TERRY,
Brevet Major-General.

DECEMBER 31, 1864—12.55 p. m.

Col. C. B. COMSTOCK,
City Point:

No officer or man was inside Fort Fisher. None were nearer to it than Colonel Jackson, of my staff. Colonel says that General Curtis did change his opinion. Neither General Ames nor General Curtis have yet arrived. I understand they will be up on the mail-boat to-day, and then I will get all the information you desire.

G. WEITZEL,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. SECOND DIV., 25TH ARMY CORPS,
No. 14. } *In the Field, Va., December 31, 1864.*

I. Upon receipt of orders the commanding officer Forty-first U. S. Colored Troops will report with his command to Col. U. Doubleday, commanding Second Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps.

* * * * * * *

IV. Paragraph II, Special Orders, No. 3, headquarters Second Division, Twenty-fifth Army Corps, assigning Bvt. Brig. Gen. Charles S. Russell to the command of the First Brigade of this division is hereby revoked, said order having been made under a misapprehension of his date of rank. Bvt. Brig. Gen. Charles S. Russell is hereby assigned to the command of the Third Brigade of this division, and will report for duty immediately upon receipt of orders.

V. The Forty-first U. S. Colored Troops, having been ordered to report for duty with this division, is hereby assigned to the Second Brigade of the same from and after January 1, 1865.

By command of Brig. Gen. William Birney:

THEO. C. GLAZIER,
Captain and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

HATCHER'S, *December 31, 1864.*

Brigadier-General TURNER:

GENERAL: Lieutenant-Colonel Arden's brigade has arrived and part of Lieutenant-Colonel Wettstein's. General Thomas is about moving to report to Major-General Weitzel.

Respectfully,

E. FERRERO,
Brevet Major-General.

HDQRS. DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED, VA.,
ARMY OF THE JAMES,
December 31, 1864—9 a. m.

Brig. Gen. H. G. THOMAS,
Comdg. Third Brig., Third Div., Twenty-fifth Army Corps:

GENERAL: You will at once, on the receipt of this order, proceed with your command, and report to Major-General Weitzel, commanding Twenty-fifth Army Corps, Army of the James. You will take your baggage, camp and garrison equipage, &c. You will give strict orders to have your camps left unmolested, and as clean as possible,

as they will be occupied by the troops relieving you. Regimental commanders will be held personally responsible that this order is complied with.

By order of Brevet Major-General Ferrero:

GEO. A. HICKS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[DECEMBER 31, 1864.—For the "effective strength" of the U. S. forces operating against Richmond, see Part I, pp. 40, 41.]

Abstract from return of the Army of the Potomac, Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of December, 1864.*

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	32	.....	32	47	.....	.....
Provost Guard (Patrick)	55	1,413	1,931	2,786	.....	.....
Engineer Brigade (Benham)	90	3,539	4,420	5,112	.....	.....
Battalion U. S. Engineers (Howell)	5	170	206	282	.....	.....
Artillery (Hunt)	57	1,572	1,722	2,737	68	98
Guards and orderlies (Batchelder)	1	39	86	99	.....	.....
Signal Corps (Davis)	10	124	140	164	.....	.....
Second Army Corps (Humphreys)	960	18,963	25,060	47,213	.....	70
Fifth Army Corps (Warren)	756	17,061	22,829	33,201	.....	58
Sixth Army Corps (Wright)	608	14,934	19,268	30,420	.....	34
Ninth Army Corps (Willcox)	721	15,923	20,956	30,961	.....	36
Second Cavalry Division (Davies)	255	6,538	8,441	14,440	.....	8
Total	3,550	80,276	105,091	167,462	68	304

Organization of the Army of the Potomac, commanded by Maj. Gen. George G. Meade, U. S. Army, December 31, 1864.*

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

PROVOST GUARD.

Brig. Gen. MARSENA R. PATRICK.

8th Delaware (three companies), Capt. Robert J. Holt.
1st Indiana Cavalry, Company K, Lieut. William O. Hedrick.
1st Massachusetts Cavalry, Companies C and D, Capt. Edward A. Flint.
80th New York (20th Militia), Lieut. Col. John McEntee.
3d Pennsylvania Cavalry (eight companies), Lieut. Col. James W. Walsh.
68th Pennsylvania, Col. Andrew H. Tippin.
114th Pennsylvania, Bvt. Brig. Gen. Charles H. T. Collis.

ENGINEER BRIGADE AND DEFENSES OF CITY POINT

Brig. Gen. HENRY W. BENHAM.

61st Massachusetts (six companies), Lieut. Col. Charles F. Walcott.
1st Maine Sharpshooters (two companies), Capt. George R. Abbott.
Hall's Independent Battalion (Michigan) Sharpshooters (two companies), Capt. Nathaniel P. Watson.
18th New Hampshire (six companies), Lieut. Col. Joseph M. Clough.
15th New York Engineers, Col. Wesley Brainerd.
50th New York Engineers, Col. William H. Pettes.†

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*Temporarily absent; Maj. Gen. John G Parke in command.

†Commanding detachment at Washington, D. C., the remainder of regiment serving in the field under subordinate officers.

BATTALION U. S. ENGINEERS.

Bvt. Capt. CHARLES W. HOWELL.

GUARDS AND ORDERLIES.

Independent Company Oneida (New York) Cavalry, Lieut. Frank Vane.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Capt. CHARLES L. DAVIS.

ARTILLERY.*

Bvt. Maj. Gen. HENRY J. HUNT.

Artillery Reserve.

Capt. EZEKIEL R. MAYO.

Maine Light, 2d Battery (B), Capt. Albert F. Thomas.
Maine Light, 3d Battery (C), Capt. Ezekiel R. Mayo.
Massachusetts Light, 14th Battery, Capt. Joseph W. B. Wright.
15th New York Heavy, Company F, Capt. Calvin Shaffer.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery H, Capt. Crawford Allen, jr.
Vermont Light, 3d Battery, Capt. Romeo H. Start.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. ANDREW A. HUMPHREYS.

FIRST DIVISION.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. NELSON A. MILES.

First Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. GEORGE N. MACY.

26th Michigan, Maj. Nathan Church.
5th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Welcome A. Crafts.
61st New York, Col. George W. Scott.
81st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William Wilson.
140th Pennsylvania, Capt. William. A. F. Stockton.
183d Pennsylvania, Col. George T. Egbert.
2d New York Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. George Hogg.

Second Brigade.

Col. ROBERT NUGENT.

28th Massachusetts (five companies), Capt. John Connor.
63d New York (six companies), Lieut. Col. John H. Gleason.
69th New York, Maj. Richard Moroney.
88th New York (five companies), Lieut. Col. Denis F. Burke.
7th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. Samuel L. Anable.

Third Brigade.

Col. CLINTON D. MACDOUGALL.

7th New York, Col. George W. von Schack.
39th New York (seven companies), Capt. David A. Allen.
52d New York (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Henry M. Karples.
111th New York, Lieut. Col. Lewis W. Husk.
125th New York, Lieut. Col. Joseph Hyde.
126th New York (five companies), Capt. John B. Geddis.

Fourth Brigade.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM GLENNY.

64th New York (six companies), Capt. Victor D. Renwick.
66th New York, Capt. Nathaniel P. Lane.
53d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. George C. Anderson.
116th Pennsylvania, Capt. David W. Megraw.
145th Pennsylvania, Capt. Peter W. Free.
148th Pennsylvania, Capt. James F. Weaver.
4th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. Frank Williams.

*All organizations of artillery, excepting those entered under this head, will be found in the rosters of the commands with which they served.

SECOND DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JOHN GIBBON.*

Provost Guard.

2d Company Minnesota Sharpshooters, Capt. Mahlon Black.

First Brigade.

Col. JAMES M. WILLETT.

19th Maine, Col. Isaac W. Starbird.
19th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Edmund Rice.
20th Massachusetts, Maj. John Kelliher.
7th Michigan, Lieut. Col. George W. La Point.
1st Minnesota (Companies A and B), Bvt. Maj. James C. Farwell.
59th New York, Col. William A. Olmsted.
152d New York, Capt. Charles H. Dygert.
184th Pennsylvania, Maj. George L. Ritman.
36th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. Clement E. Warner.

Second Brigade.

Col. MATHEW MURPHY.

155th New York, Capt. Michael Doheny.
164th New York, Lieut. Col. William De Lacy.
170th New York, Col. James P. McIvor.
182d New York (69th New York National Guard Artillery), Capt. Michael McGuire.
8th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. Joel B. Baker.

Third Brigade.

Lieut. Col. FRANCIS E. PIERCE.

14th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Samuel A. Moore.
1st Delaware, Lieut. Col. Daniel Woodall.
12th New Jersey, Capt. Henry F. Chew.
10th New York (six companies), Capt. Joseph La Fuira.
108th New York, Capt. William H. Andrews.
4th Ohio (four companies), Lieut. Col. Charles C. Calahan.
69th Pennsylvania, Maj. Patrick S. Tinen.
106th Pennsylvania (three companies), Lieut. John H. Gallager.
7th West Virginia (four companies), Lieut. Col. Isaac B. Fisher.

THIRD DIVISION.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. GERSHOM MOTT.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. P. REGIS DE TROBRIAND.

20th Indiana, Maj. William Orr.
17th Maine, Capt. William Hobson.
40th New York, Lieut. Col. Madison M. Cannon.
73d New York (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Michael W. Burns.
86th New York, Lieut. Col. Nathan H. Vincent.
124th New York, Lieut. Col. Charles H. Weygant.
99th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Peter Fritz, jr.
110th Pennsylvania, Capt. William Stewart.
2d U. S. Sharpshooters, Maj. James E. Doughty.
1st Maine Heavy Artillery, Col. Russell B. Shepherd.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. BYRON R. PIERCE.

5th Michigan, Col. John Pulford.
93d New York (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Benjamin C. Butler.
57th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Lorenzo D. Bumpus.
84th Pennsylvania (four companies), Capt. Samuel Bryan.
105th Pennsylvania, Capt. James Miller.
141st Pennsylvania, Col. Henry J. Madill.
1st Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Maj. Nathaniel Shatswell.

* On leave from December 23; Brig. Gen. Thomas A. Smyth, of Third Brigade, temporarily in command.

Third Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. JOHN RAMSEY.

11th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Charles C. Rivers.
7th New Jersey, Col. Francis Price, jr.
8th New Jersey, Capt. Louis M. Morris.
11th New Jersey, Lieut. Col. John Schoonover.
120th New York, Maj. Abram L. Lockwood.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Bvt. Lieut. Col. JOHN G. HAZARD.

Maine Light, 6th Battery (F), Lieut. William H. Rogers.
Massachusetts Light, 10th Battery, Bvt. Maj. J. Henry Sleeper.
1st New Hampshire, Battery M, Capt. Frederick M. Edgell.
1st New Jersey Light, Battery B, Capt. A. Judson Clark.
New Jersey Light, 3d Battery, Bvt. Maj. Christian Woerner.
1st New York Light, Battery G, Capt. Samuel A. McClellan.
4th New York Heavy, Battery C, Capt. James H. Wood.
4th New York Heavy, Battery L, Lieut. Richard Kennedy.
New York Light, 11th Battery, Lieut. George W. Davey.
New York Light, 12th Battery, Lieut. William S. Bull.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery F, Lieut. John F. Campbell.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery B, Bvt. Maj. T. Fred. Brown.
4th United States, Battery K, Lieut. John W. Roder.
5th United States, Batteries C and I, Lieut. W. Butler Beck.

FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. GOUVERNEUR K. WARREN.

ESCORT.

4th Pennsylvania Cavalry (detachment), Capt. Napoleon J. Horrell.

PROVOST GUARD.

5th New York, Companies E and F, Capt. Paul A. Oliver.
104th New York, Capt. William W. Graham.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES GRIFFIN.*

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSHUA L. CHAMBERLAIN.

185th New York, Lieut. Col. Gustavus Sniper.
198th Pennsylvania, Bvt. Brig. Gen. Horatio G. Sickel.

Second Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. EDGAR M. GREGORY.

187th New York (seven companies), Lieut. Col. Daniel Myers.
188th New York, Lieut. Col. Isaac Doolittle.
189th New York, Maj. Joseph G. Townsend.

Third Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. ALFRED L. PEARSON.

20th Maine, Lieut. Col. Charles D. Gilmore.
32d Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. James A. Cunningham.
1st Michigan, Maj. George Lockley.
16th Michigan,† Bvt. Maj. Charles H. Salter.
83d Pennsylvania (six companies), Lieut. Col. Chauncey P. Rogers.
91st Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Eli G. Sellers.
118th Pennsylvania, Bvt. Lieut. Col. Henry O'Neill.
155th Pennsylvania, Bvt. Col. John Ewing.

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* On leave from December 24; Brig. Gen. Joseph J. Bartlett, of Third Brigade, temporarily commanding.

† Brady's and Jardine's companies Michigan Sharpshooters attached.

SECOND DIVISION.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. ROMEYN B. AYRES.*

First Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. FREDERICK WINTHROP.

5th New York, Capt. Charles S. Montgomery.
140th New York, Capt. William S. Grantsynn.
146th New York, Maj. James Grindlay.
15th New York Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. Michael Wiedrich.

Second Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. ANDREW W. DENISON.

1st Maryland, Col. John W. Wilson.
4th Maryland, Col. Richard N. Bowerman.
7th Maryland, Lieut. Col. David T. Bennett.
8th Maryland, Lieut. Col. John G. Johannes.

Third Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM SERGEANT.

3d Delaware, Maj. James E. Baily.
4th Delaware, Bvt. Lieut. Col. Moses B. Gist.
157th Pennsylvania (four companies), Maj. Edmund T. Tiers.
190th Pennsylvania, } Bvt. Col. Joseph B. Pattee.
191st Pennsylvania, }
210th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Edward L. Witman.

THIRD DIVISION.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. SAMUEL W. CRAWFORD.

Sharpshooters.

1st Battalion New York (three companies), Capt. Clinton Perry.

First Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD S. BRAGG.†

24th Michigan, Maj. William Hutchinson.
143d Pennsylvania, Maj. Chester K. Hughes.
149th Pennsylvania, Maj. James Glenn.
150th Pennsylvania, Maj. George W. Jones.
6th Wisconsin, Col. John A. Kellogg.
7th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. Hollon Richardson.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HENRY BAXTER.

16th Maine, Col. Charles W. Tilden.
39th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Henry M. Tremlett.
97th New York, Col. Charles Wheelock.
11th Pennsylvania, Col. Richard Coulter.
88th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Benjamin F. Haines.
107th Pennsylvania, Col. Thomas F. McCoy.

Third Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. WILLIAM HOFMANN.

76th New York (two companies), Lieut. George W. Steele.
94th New York, Capt. Henry H. Fish.
95th New York, Lieut. Col. James Creney.
147th New York, Capt. James Coey.
56th Pennsylvania, Maj. John T. Jack.
121st Pennsylvania, Capt. Adam Zinnel.
142d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Horatio N. Warren.

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* On leave from December 22; Bvt. Brig. Gen. James Gwyn, of Third Brigade, temporarily commanding.

† On leave from December 22; Bvt. Brig. Gen. Henry A. Morrow, of 24th Michigan, temporarily commanding.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. CHARLES S. WAINWRIGHT.*

Massachusetts Light, 5th Battery (E), Bvt. Maj. Charles A. Phillips.
Massachusetts Light, 9th Battery, Lieut. Richard S. Milton.
1st New York Light, Battery B, Lieut. Robert E. Rogers.
1st New York Light, Battery C, Capt. David F. Ritchie.
1st New York Light, Battery D, Capt. James B. Hazelton.
1st New York Light, Battery E, Capt. Angell Matthewson.
1st New York Light, Battery H, Bvt. Maj. Charles E. Mink.
1st New York Light, Battery L, Bvt. Maj. George Breck.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery B, Lieut. William McClelland.
4th United States, Battery B, Lieut. John Mitchell.
5th United States, Batteries D and G, Lieut. Jacob B. Rawles.

SIXTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. HORATIO G. WRIGHT.

ESCORT.

21st Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company E, Capt. William H. Boyd, jr.

FIRST DIVISION.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. FRANK WHEATON.

First Brigade.

Capt. BALDWIN HUFTY.

1st New Jersey (three companies), Lieut. Jacob L. Hutt.
2d New Jersey (one company), Lieut. Adolphus Weiss.
4th New Jersey, Capt. Ebenezer W. Davis.
10th New Jersey, Capt. James W. McNeely.
15th New Jersey,† Capt. James W. Penrose.
40th New Jersey (two companies), Capt. John Edelstein.

Second Brigade.

Brig. Gen. RANALD S. MACKENZIE.

65th New York, Lieut. Col. Henry C. Fisk.
121st New York, Capt. James W. Cronkite.
95th Pennsylvania (six companies), Maj. John Harper.
2d Connecticut Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. James Hubbard.

Third Brigade.

Col. THOMAS S. ALLEN.

37th Massachusetts, Maj. Rufus P. Lincoln.
49th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Baynton J. Hickman.
82d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. James R. Neiler.
119th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Gideon Clark.
2d Rhode Island (six companies), Capt. Elisha H. Rhodes.
5th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. James M. Bull.

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*On leave from December 25; Bvt. Lieut. Col. Robert H. Fitzhugh, of 1st New York Light Artillery, temporarily commanding.
† One company Third New Jersey attached.

SECOND DIVISION.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. GEORGE W. GETTY.*

First Brigade.

Col. JAMES M. WARNER.†

62d New York, Maj. William H. Baker.
93d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Charles W. Eckman.
98th Pennsylvania, Capt. Peter Beisel.
102d Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. James Patchell.
139th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John G. Parr.

Second Brigade.

Lieut. Col. CHARLES HUNSDON.

2d Vermont, Maj. Enoch E. Johnson.
3d Vermont (six companies,) } Lieut. Col. Horace W. Floyd.
4th Vermont, }
5th Vermont, Capt. Ronald A. Kennedy.
6th Vermont (six companies), Maj. Sumner H. Lincoln.
1st Vermont Heavy Artillery, Maj. Aldace F. Walker.

Third Brigade.

Col. THOMAS W. HYDE.

1st Maine, Lieut. Col. Stephen C. Fletcher.
43d New York (five companies), Lieut. Col. Charles A. Milliken.
49th New York (five companies), Lieut. Col. Erastus D. Holt.
77th New York (five companies), Capt. David J. Caw.
122d New York, Maj. Alonzo H. Clapp.
61st Pennsylvania (seven companies), Capt. Charles H. Clausen.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. TRUMAN SEYMOUR.

First Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM S. TRUEX.

14th New Jersey, Lieut. Col. Jacob J. Janeway.
106th New York, Capt. Alvah W. Briggs.
151st New York (five companies), Capt. Browning N. Wiles.
87th Pennsylvania (five companies), Capt. James Tearney.
10th Vermont, Capt. George B. Damon.

Second Brigade.

Col. BENJAMIN F. SMITH.

6th Maryland, Lieut. Col. Joseph C. Hill.
110th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Otho H. Binkley.
122d Ohio, Col. William H. Ball.
126th Ohio, Capt. Thomas W. McKinnie.
67th Pennsylvania (seven companies), Lieut. John F. Young.
138th Pennsylvania, Col. Matthew R. McClennan.
9th New York Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. James W. Snyder.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Col. CHARLES H. TOMPKINS.

Maine Light, 4th Battery (D), Capt. Charles W. White.
1st New Jersey Light, Battery A, Capt. Augustin N. Parsons.
New York Light, 3d Battery, Bvt. Capt. Alexander S. McLain.
1st Ohio Light, Battery H, Capt. Stephen W. Dorsey.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery E, Lieut. Ezra K. Parker.
5th United States, Battery E, Lieut. John R. Brincklé.

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* On leave from December 22; Brig. Gen. Lewis A. Grant, of Second Brigade, temporarily commanding.

† On leave from December 23; Col. George P. Foster, 4th Vermont, temporarily commanding.

NINTH ARMY CORPS.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. ORLANDO B. WILLCOX.

ESCORT.

2d Pennsylvania Cavalry (detachment), Sergt. Charles O'Brien.

PROVOST GUARD.

79th New York (four companies), Capt. Andrew D. Baird.

FIRST DIVISION.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. NAPOLEON B. MCLAUGHLEN.

First Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL HARRIMAN.

8th Michigan, Bvt. Col. Ralph Ely.
27th Michigan,* Lieut. Col. Charles Waite.
109th New York, Maj. George W. Dunn.
51st Pennsylvania, Col. William J. Bolton.
37th Wisconsin, Lieut. Col. John Green.
38th Wisconsin, Col. James Bintliff.

Second Brigade.

Col. BYRON M. CUTCHEON.

1st Michigan Sharpshooters, Maj. Asahel W. Nichols.
2d Michigan, Lieut. Col. Edwin J. March.
20th Michigan, Maj. Claudius B. Grant.
46th New York, Capt. Victor Praxmarer.
60th Ohio, † Lieut. Col. Martin P. Avery.
50th Pennsylvania, Capt. George W. Brumm.

Third Brigade.

Bvt. Col. GILBERT P. ROBINSON.

3d Maryland (four companies), Capt. Joseph F. Carter.
29th Massachusetts, Capt. Charles T. Richardson.
57th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Julius M. Tucker.
59th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Joseph Colburn.
100th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Joseph H. Pentecost.
14th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. George M. Randall.

Acting Engineers.

17th Michigan, Lieut. Col. Frederick W. Swift.

SECOND DIVISION.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. ROBERT B. POTTER.‡

First Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. JOHN I. CURTIN.

35th Massachusetts, Col. Sumner Carruth.
36th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Thaddeus L. Barker.
58th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. John C. Whiton.
39th New Jersey, Col. Abram C. Wildrick.
51st New York, Capt. Thomas B. Marsh.
45th Pennsylvania, Capt. Roland C. Cheeseman.
48th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. George W. Gowan.
4th Rhode Island (three companies), Bvt. Col. Percy Daniels.
7th Rhode Island (seven companies), Bvt. Col. Percy Daniels.

Second Brigade.

Col. HERBERT B. TITUS.

31st Maine, Maj. George A. Bolton.
2d Maryland, Lieut. Col. Benjamin F. Taylor.
56th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Horatio D. Jarves.
6th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Phin P. Bixby.
9th New Hampshire, Capt. John B. Cooper.
11th New Hampshire, Col. Walter Harriman.
179th New York, Col. William M. Gregg.
186th New York, Col. Bradley Winslow.
17th Vermont, Col. Francis V. Randall.

*1st and 2d Companies Michigan Sharpshooters attached.
†9th and 10th Companies Ohio Sharpshooters attached.
‡On leave from December 22; Brig. Gen. Simon G. Griffin, of Second Brigade, temporarily commanding.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN F. HARTRANFT.

First Brigade.

Col. CHARLES W. DIVEN.

200th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William H. H. McCall.
208th Pennsylvania, Col. Alfred B. McCalmont.
209th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. George W. Frederick.

Second Brigade.

Col. JOSEPH A. MATHEWS.

205th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. William F. Walter.
207th Pennsylvania, Col. Robert C. Cox.
211th Pennsylvania, Col. James H. Trimble.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. JOHN C. TIDBALL.

Maine Light, 7th Battery (G), Capt. Adelbert B. Twitchell.
Massachusetts Light, 11th Battery, Capt. Edward J. Jones.
New York Light, 19th Battery, Lieut. Alfred B. Losee.
New York Light, 27th Battery, Capt. John B. Eaton.
New York Light, 34th Battery, Bvt. Maj. Jacob Roemer.
Pennsylvania Light, Battery D, Capt. Samuel H. Rhoads.

CAVALRY.

SECOND DIVISION.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. DAVID MCM. GREGG.*

First Brigade.

Col. HUGH H. JANEWAY.

1st Massachusetts (eight companies), Lieut. Col. Samuel E. Chamberlain.
1st New Jersey, Maj. James H. Hart.
10th New York, Col. M. Henry Avery.
24th New York, Lieut. Col. Walter C. Newberry.
1st Pennsylvania (five companies), Maj. Richard J. Falls.
2d U. S. Artillery, Battery A, Lieut. John H. Calef.

Second Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. J. IRVIN GREGG.

2d Pennsylvania, Maj. George F. McCabe.
4th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Samuel B. M. Young.
8th Pennsylvania (eight companies), Lieut. Col. William A. Corrie.
13th Pennsylvania, Col. Michael Kerwin.
16th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. John K. Robison.
1st U. S. Artillery, Batteries H and I, Lieut. Theophilus B. von Michalowski.

Third Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. CHARLES H. SMITH.

1st Maine, Lieut. Col. Jonathan P. Cilley.
2d New York Mounted Rifles, Capt. Samuel D. Stevenson.
6th Ohio, Lieut. Col. George W. Dickinson.
21st Pennsylvania, Maj. Robert Bell.

Unattached.

13th Ohio, Maj. Stephen R. Clark.

*On leave from December 22; Brig. Gen. Henry E. Davies, jr., of First Brigade, temporarily commanding.

Abstract from returns of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, commanding, for the month of December, 1864.

[Compiled mainly from subordinate returns.]

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.			Heavy.	Field.
General headquarters	23	.....	23	25	.....	.....
Signal Corps (Norton)	23	152	175	186	.....	.....
Naval Brigade (Graham)	22	456	651	1,121	.....	.....
1st New York Engineers (Serrell)	14	280	518	871	.....	.....
Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry (Rand)	13	203	245	845	.....	.....
Twenty-fourth Army Corps (Terry)	559	16,343	19,383	44,065	.....	66
Twenty-fifth Army Corps (Weitzel)	451	12,570	15,966	29,346	.....	54
Cavalry Division (Kautz)	115	3,396	4,102	5,739	.....	8
District of Eastern Virginia (Shepley)	96	3,058	4,018	10,435	24	12
District of North Carolina (Palmer)	218	6,033	8,117	12,938	101	62
Separate Brigade* (Robinson)	53	1,344	1,545	2,095	.....	6
Defenses of Bermuda Hundred (Ferrero)	133	4,302	5,072	9,254	.....	.....
Grand total	1,720	48,137	59,815	116,920	125	208
Grand total according to department return	1,672	47,195	58,463	113,884	125	130

Organization of troops in the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, commanded by Maj. Gen. Benjamin F. Butler, U. S. Army, December 31, 1864.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS.

SIGNAL CORPS.

Capt. LEMUEL B. NORTON.

NAVAL BRIGADE.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES K. GRAHAM.

13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company I, Lieut. Theodore Goupil.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company K, Lieut. Stewart J. Donnelly.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company L, Capt. Amaya L. Fitch.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company M, Lieut. Frederick S. Paul.

ENGINEERS.

1st New York, Col. Edward W. Serrell.

CAVALRY.

4th Massachusetts (detachment), Col. Arnold A. Rand.

TWENTY-FOURTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. EDWARD O. C. ORD.†

*Embraces troops at Harrison's Landing and Forts Pocahontas and Powhatan.
† On leave from December 28; Bvt. Maj. Gen. Alfred H. Terry, of First Division, emporarily commanding.

HEADQUARTERS GUARD.

8th Connecticut, Col. John E. Ward.

PROVOST GUARD AND ORDERLIES.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Companies F and K, Capt. Joseph J. Baker.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT S. FOSTER.

First Brigade.

Col. THOMAS O. OSBORN.

39th Illinois, Capt. Homer A. Plympton.
62d Ohio, Lieut. Col. Henry R. West.
67th Ohio, Lieut. Col. Henry S. Commager.
199th Pennsylvania, Col. James C. Briscoe.

Second Brigade

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH R. HAWLEY.

6th Connecticut, Col. Alfred P. Rockwell.
7th Connecticut, Capt. Henry B. Gill.
3d New Hampshire, Capt. William H. Trickey.
7th New Hampshire, Col. Joseph C. Abbott.
16th New York Heavy Artillery, (six companies), Maj. Frederick W. Prince.

Third Brigade.

Col. HARRIS M. PLAISTED.

10th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Edwin S. Greeley.
11th Maine, Lieut. Col. Jonathan A. Hill.
24th Massachusetts, Maj. Albert Ordway.
100th New York, Col. George B. Dandy.
206th Pennsylvania, Col. Hugh J. Brady.

Fourth Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. JAMES JOURDAN.

8th Maine, Lieut. Col. William M. McArthur.
89th New York, Col. Harrison S. Fairchild.
148th New York, Col. John B. Murray.
158th New York, Lieut. Col. William H. McNary.
55th Pennsylvania, Capt. George H. Hill.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. ADELBERT AMES.

First Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. N. MARTIN CURTIS.

3d New York, Capt. George W. Warren.
112th New York, Lieut. Col. John F. Smith.
117th New York, Col. Rufus Daggett.
142d New York, Lieut. Col. Albert M. Barney.

Second Brigade.

Col. GALUSHA PENNYPACKER.

47th New York, Capt. Joseph M. McDonald.
48th New York, Lieut. Col. William B. Coan.
76th Pennsylvania, Col. John S. Littell.
97th Pennsylvania, Lieut. John Wainwright.
203d Pennsylvania, Col. John W. Moore.

Third Brigade.

Col. LOUIS BELL.

13th Indiana (five companies), Capt. Samuel M. Zent.
9th Maine, Col. G. Fred. Granger.
4th New Hampshire, Capt. John H. Roberts.
115th New York, Maj. Ezra L. Walrath.
169th New York, Col. Alonzo Alden.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES DEVENS.

First Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JOHN B. RAULSTON.

11th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Randall H. Rice.
13th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Normand Smith.
81st New York, Capt. Edward A. Stimson.
98th New York, Lieut. Col. William Kreutzer.
139th New York, Capt. Theodore Miller.
19th Wisconsin, Maj. Samuel K. Vaughan.

Second Brigade.

Col. JOSEPH H. POTTER.

5th Maryland, Lieut. Col. William W. Bamberger.
10th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. John Coughlin.
12th New Hampshire, Lieut. Col. Thomas E. Barker.
96th New York, Col. Edgar M. Cullen.
118th New York, Maj. John S. Cunningham.
9th Vermont, Col. Edward H. Ripley.

Third Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. GUY V. HENRY.

21st Connecticut, Lieut. Col. James F. Brown.
40th Massachusetts, Capt. John Pollack.
2d New Hampshire, Maj. John D. Cooper.
58th Pennsylvania, Maj. Robert C. Redmond.
188th Pennsylvania, Maj. Francis H. Reichard.

FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION.*

(Army of West Virginia.)

Bvt. Brig. Gen. THOMAS M. HARRIS.

First Brigade.

Lieut. Col. THOMAS F. WILDES.

34th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Andrew Potter.
116th Ohio, Capt. Wilbert B. Teters.
123d Ohio, Maj. Horace Kellogg.

Second Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM B. CURTIS.

23d Illinois (five companies), Capt. Martin Wallace.
54th Pennsylvania, Capt. Franklin B. Long.
12th West Virginia, Maj. Richard H. Brown.

Third Brigade.

Col. MILTON WELLS.†

10th West Virginia, Capt. Morgan A. Darnall.
11th West Virginia, Capt. Dixon R. King.
15th West Virginia, Lieut. Col. John W. Holliday.

ARTILLERY.

Maj. CHARLES C. ABELL.

3d New York Light, Battery E, Capt. George E. Ashby.
3d New York Light, Battery H, Capt. William J. Riggs.
3d New York Light, Battery K, Capt. James R. Angel.
3d New York Light, Battery M, Capt. John H. Howell.
New York Light, 7th Battery, Lieut. Martin V. McIntyre.
New York Light, 16th Battery, Capt. Richard H. Lee.
New York Light, 17th Battery, Lieut. Hiram D. Smith.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery A, Capt. William Stitt.
1st Rhode Island Light, Battery F, Lieut. Robert B. Smith.
4th United States, Battery L, Lieut. Richard Wilson.
5th United States, Battery A, Lieut. Charles P. Muhlenberg.
5th United States, Battery F, Lieut. Leonard Martin.

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* Temporarily attached to Twenty-fourth Corps December 24.
† Succeeded December 31 by Lieut. Col. Moses S. Hall.

TWENTY-FIFTH ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. GODFREY WEITZEL.

PROVOST GUARD.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Companies E and H, Maj. Atherton H. Stevens, jr.

FIRST DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CHARLES J. PAINE.

First Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. DELEVAN BATES.

1st U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Giles H. Rich.
27th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Albert M. Blackman.
30th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Hiram A. Oakman.

Second Brigade.

Col. JOHN W. AMES.

4th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. George Rogers.
6th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Clark E. Royce.
39th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Ozora P. Stearns.

Third Brigade.

Col. ELIAS WRIGHT.

5th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Giles W. Shurtleff.
10th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Edward H. Powell.
37th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Nathan Goff, jr.
107th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. David M. Sells.

SECOND DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM BIRNEY.

First Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. CHARLES S. RUSSELL.

7th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. James Shaw, jr.
109th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Orion A. Bartholomew.
116th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. William W. Woodward.
117th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Lewis G. Brown.

Second Brigade.

Col. ULYSSES DOUBLEDAY.

8th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Samuel C. Armstrong.
45th U. S. Colored Troops (six companies), Lieut. Col. Edelmiro Mayer.
127th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. James Givin.

Third Brigade.

Col. HENRY C. WARD.

28th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Logan.
29th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. T. Jefferson Brown.
31st U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. Thomas Wright.

THIRD DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD A. WILD.

First Brigade.

Bvt. Brig. Gen. ALONZO G. DRAPER.

22d U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Ira C. Terry.
36th U. S. Colored Troops, Maj. William H. Hart.
38th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Dexter E. Clapp.
118th U. S. Colored Troops, Col. John C. Moon.

Second Brigade.

Col. EDWARD MARTINDALE.

29th Connecticut Colored Troops, Col. William B. Wooster.
9th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. David Torrance.
41st U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Llewellyn F. Haskell.

Third Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HENRY G. THOMAS.

19th U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Joseph G. Perkins.
23d U. S. Colored Troops, Lieut. Col. Marshall L. Dempcy.
43d U. S. Colored Troops, Col. Stephen B. Yeoman.

UNASSIGNED.

2d U. S. Colored Cavalry (dismounted), Capt. Edward P. Wilson.

ARTILLERY BRIGADE.

Lieut. Col. RICHARD H. JACKSON.

Connecticut Light, 1st Battery, Capt. James B. Clinton.
New Jersey Light, 4th Battery, Capt. Charles R. Doane.
New Jersey Light, 5th Battery, Lieut. Henry H. Metcalf.
16th New York Heavy (detachment), Lieut. Silas J. Truax.
1st Pennsylvania Light, Battery E, Capt. Henry Y. Wildey.
3d Rhode Island, Battery C, Capt. Martin S. James.
1st United States, Battery D, Lieut Redmond Tully.
1st United States, Battery M, Capt. Loomis L. Langdon.
3d United States, Battery E, Lieut. John R. Myrick.
4th United States, Battery D, Capt. Frederick M. Follett.

CAVALRY DIVISION.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. AUGUST V. KAUTZ.

First Brigade.

Col. ROBERT M. WEST.

20th New York, Col. Newton B. Lord.
5th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Christopher Kleinz.

Second Brigade.

Col. SAMUEL P. SPEAR.

1st District of Columbia (four companies), Maj. J. Stannard Baker.
11th Pennsylvania, Lieut. Col. Franklin A. Stratton.

Third Brigade.

Col. ANDREW W. EVANS.

1st Maryland, Lieut. Col. Jacob H. Counselman.
1st New York Mounted Rifles, Col. Edwin V. Sumner.

Artillery.

Wisconsin Light, 4th Battery, Capt. Dorman L. Noggle.
1st United States, Battery B, Lieut. Theodore K. Gibbs.

DEFENSES OF BERMUDA HUNDRED.

Bvt. Maj. Gen. EDWARD FERRERO.

First Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM HEINE.

41st New York (six companies), Lieut. Col. Detleo von Einsiedel.
103d New York, Lieut. Col. Andrew Wettstein.
104th Pennsylvania (five companies), Capt. Theophilus Kephart.

Second Brigade.

Lieut. Col. G. DE PEYSTER ARDEN.

6th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. George C. Kibbe.
10th New York Heavy Artillery, Maj. James B. Campbell.

Provisional Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM M. MCCLURE.

13th New Hampshire, Company C, Lieut. Royal B. Prescott.
2d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, Capt. Edward S. Rowand.

*Siege Artillery.**

Bvt. Brig. Gen. HENRY L. ABBOT.

1st Connecticut Heavy, Companies C, D, F, G, and H, Maj. George B. Cook.
1st Connecticut Heavy, Companies A, B, E, I, K, L, and M, Maj. Albert F. Brooker.
Connecticut Light, Third Battery, Capt. Thomas S. Gilbert.
13th New York Heavy, Companies A and H, Capt. William Pendrell.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy, Companies E and G, Maj. Franz von Schilling.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy, Company M, Capt. Frederick Korte.

Acting Pontoniers.

3d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Company I, Lieut. Oliver J. Bixby.

SEPARATE BRIGADE.

Col. WARDWELL G. ROBINSON.

Fort Pocahontas.

Maj. WILLIAM H. TANTUM.

38th New Jersey (four companies), Maj. William H. Tantum.
16th New York Heavy Artillery (two companies), Capt. Henry C. Thompson.
New York Light Artillery, 33d Battery, Capt. Alger M. Wheeler.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry (detachment), Capt. David Vandevort.

Harrison's Landing.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM P. MCKINLEY.

4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Company M, Lieut. Thomas Miles.
184th New York Infantry, Lieut. Col. William P. McKinley.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (detachment), Lieut. Frederick Grill.

Fort Powhatan.

Col. WILLIAM J. SEWELL.

38th New Jersey (six companies), Lieut. Col. Ashbel W. Angel.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (detachment).
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, Company E, Capt. Charles W. Emerson.

DISTRICT OF EASTERN VIRGINIA.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE F. SHEPLEY.

PORTSMOUTH.

Brig. Gen. ISRAEL VOGDES.

2d U. S. Volunteers (five companies), Lieut. Col. Charles C. G. Thornton.
3d New York Cavalry, Col. George W. Lewis.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, 3d Battalion, Capt. Fred A. Lull.
New York Light Artillery, 8th Battery, Lieut. Peter Morton.
13th New York Heavy Artillery (detachment), Col. William A. Howard.
2d U. S. Colored Light Artillery, Battery B, Capt. Francis C. Choate.

NORFOLK.

Maj. HARVEY W. BROWN.

1st U. S. Colored Cavalry (five companies—dismounted), Maj. Harvey W. Brown.

FORT MONROE.

Col. JOSEPH ROBERTS.

3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (battalion), Col. Joseph Roberts.

EASTERN SHORE.

Lieut. Col. FRANK J. WHITE.

1st Virginia, Loyal, Company A, Lieut. Oliver G. Thomas.
Purnell Legion (Maryland) Cavalry, Company A, Capt. Robert E. Duvall.
11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company L, Capt. James D. Mahon.
3d Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery (detachment), Lieut. Alpheus H. Bowman.

* Permanently attached to the Army of the Potomac by Special Orders, No. 156, headquarters Armies of the United States, December 24, 1864.

NEWPORT NEWS.

Lieut. Col. LOREN BURRITT.

1st U. S. Colored Cavalry, Company K, Capt. Samson J. L. Whiteman.

FORT MAGRUDER.

Col. JOSEPH J. MORRISON.

100th New York (detachment), Capt. Frank C. Brunck.
16th New York Heavy Artillery (four companies), Maj. Julius C. Hicks.
4th Massachusetts Cavalry, Company G, Capt. Edward T. Bouvé.
20th New York Cavalry, Company H, Capt. James Spencer.
1st New York Mounted Rifles, Company G, Lieut. David Earle.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry (dismounted), Company A, Capt. Charles W. Dey.
1st U. S. Colored Cavalry (dismounted), Company H, Lieut. Frank A. Smith.

DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Brig. Gen. INNIS N. PALMER.

SUB-DISTRICT OF THE ALBEMARLE.

Col. THEODORE F. LEHMANN.

16th Connecticut (two companies), Capt. Joseph H. Barnum.
85th New York (two companies), Lieut. Col. Will W. Clarke.
101st Pennsylvania (two companies), Col. David B. Morris.
103d Pennsylvania (two companies), Capt. Thomas A. Cochran.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company D, Lieut. Moses O. Darling.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Company K,* Capt. Emelius de Meulen.

SUB-DISTRICT OF BEAUFORT.

Col. JOSEPH M. MCCHESNEY.

17th Massachusetts (four companies), Capt. Henry Splaine.
27th Massachusetts, Lieut. Col. Walter G. Bartholomew.
9th New Jersey, Col. James Stewart, jr.
1st North Carolina, Col. Joseph M. McChesney.
2d North Carolina (four companies), Capt. Edmund C. Blount.
1st North Carolina Colored Heavy Artillery (four companies), Capt. Charles G. Allen.
23d New York Cavalry (two companies), Capt. Emory Cummings.
3d New York Light Artillery, Battery C (section), Lieut. Enoch Jones.

SUB-DISTRICT OF NEW BERNE.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD HARLAND.

15th Connecticut, Lieut. Col. Samuel Tolles.
23d Massachusetts, Capt. Henry P. Woodbury.
25th Massachusetts (four companies), Capt. James Tucker.
99th New York (three companies), Capt. John C. Lee.
132d New York, Lieut. Col. George H. Hitchcock.
1st North Carolina (two companies), Capt. Edward C. Manning.
12th New York Cavalry, Col. James W. Savage.
2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. Augustus B. R. Sprague.
3d New York Light Artillery, Col. Charles H. Stewart.
13th New York Heavy Artillery, Company K,† Lieut. Stewart J. Donnelly.
New York Light Artillery, 23d Battery, Capt. Alfred Ransom.
5th Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, Lieut. Col. George W. Tew.

PLYMOUTH.

2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery (four companies), Col. Jones Frankle.

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* Detachment 24th Battery New York Light Artillery attached.
† On gun-boat Reno.

CONFEDERATE CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

RICHMOND, VA., *October 1, 1864.*

President DAVIS:

On Thursday morning early the enemy assailed in force exterior line near Chaffin's, and captured and held Fort Harrison. Pressing onward toward city, they were repulsed with loss from Fort Gilmer and driven back, a small advance party of cavalry meantime approaching and threatening the interior line, and afterward retiring without attack. On following day, under direction of General Lee, an assault made to recover Fort Harrison, though partially sucessful, failed; interior line now considered well guarded. A successful attack on the enemy on Squirrel Level road by Generals Heth and Hampton, resulting in severe punishment to enemy and capture of about 900 prisoners, is just reported, also several small but decided successes in East Tennessee and the Valley. In Valley now no enemy south of North River. Your telegrams of 28th and 30th attended to.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

[OCTOBER 1, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting engagement of Heth and Hampton with enemy on September 30, see Part I, p. 852.]

CHAFFIN'S, *October 1, 1864.*
(Received 6.10 p. m.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

Your telegram received. General Gary has not sent to me for artillery, and if he has called upon General Pemberton he should have sent it. Is General Pemberton in command of the artillery of the line of work, or who is?

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., October 2, 1864.

Lieut. Col. JOHN M. OTEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have received your communication advising me that Wise's brigade had been ordered back, and that Lieutenant-General Hill suggests that it would perhaps be [better] to place it in reserve, as it may be wanted to-morrow. I shall conform to the suggestion, and shall place Wise's brigade in reserve to-night. I trust my motives and views will be rightly appreciated when I say that, as far as practicable, I would like to keep my command together, and fight the brigades of which it is composed together. I think my troops may do better service in this way, therefore if equally satisfactory to the Lieutenant-General, I would prefer relieving a number of troops on my right, equal to the strength of Wise's brigade, and by this means enable General Mahone to have the command of his own troops instead of mine.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD CORPS,
October 2, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

The exigency is hoped to be only temporary. The suggestion of General Johnson is perfectly satisfactory, and I will so arrange it to-morrow if the enemy give me time.

A. P. HILL,
Lieutenant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, October 5, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

The following just received from telegraphic operator at Gordonsville:

We are expecting the enemy in here every minute. They are advancing on this place; two regiments of cavalry and artillery are only twelve miles off.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY DEFENSES,
Richmond, October 3, 1864.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Department of Richmond:

MAJOR: Within the last few days the lieutenant-general commanding department has referred to me several telegraphic dispatches and notes from headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, and I have myself received some from the same source, all calling attention to certain neglects or deficiencies, either reported by others or observed personally by the general commanding, in the defenses at Chaffin's Bluff, and on the line generally. The spirit and tone of these communications plainly imply censure upon the fidelity with which I have discharged my duties as commander of the Artillery Defenses. I feel a profound conviction that during the few months I have been in command the men and material at my disposal could not have been employed with more diligence or with greater advantage in strengthening the defenses of the city. With the result of these labors the lieutenant-general commanding is for the most part familiar from personal inspection. A résumé of what has been accomplished under adverse circumstances toward the improvement and extension of the fortifications, the increased armament, &c., will, I hope, sufficiently show that whatever may be my defects of skill, I am not liable to the reproach of indolence or neglect. The general condition of the lines when I assumed command was not good. The batteries were overgrown with weeds, the parapets in many places were sunk, many of the barbettes were without platforms, most of the guns were on the inner line of fortifications, their implements and equipments were incomplete. The supply of ammunition was deficient and faulty. Many of the carriages were in unserviceable condition, in some cases altogether unsuited to the caliber they mounted. There was great deficiency in the number of guns, especially of heavy caliber. In all these particulars the evidences of improvement are, I think, apparent. The ammunition is regularly

overhauled, and as far as practicable protected from the weather. Several magazines have been built, but others are still needed. The number of guns, though largely increased, is yet inadequate, but begins to approximate a sufficiency for defense. Several of the most valuable, which were prepared expressly at my request for the armament of a particular portion of the lines were, after being placed in position, transferred by General Lee's order to Petersburg. This was of course necessary, but it was a serious loss to the defenses of Richmond.

Since I have been in command there have been added to the armament of the lines seventy pieces, of which nearly one-half are heavy, among them twelve new 8-inch siege guns. In some cases defective carriages have been replaced by new ones, and in numerous instances, where it was impracticable to obtain them, the old ones have been repaired and made as serviceable as possible. Increased elevation and range have been given to several of the heavier rifle guns. Much work has been done in adjusting the parapets or barbettes to the character of the guns. The several batteries on the intermediate line have been arranged for the protection of sharpshooters. In this connection I may say that the division and battalion commanders have received repeated instructions to adjust the parapets in every case to the character of the gun along the entire line, where batteries of position are used. This, however, with my limited force and with many other calls upon their labor, is not the work of a day, and pertains properly to the Engineer Department; hence there are exceptional cases where it has not yet been done. It is not to be denied that the improvements I have been able to make on the lines of defenses fall far short of what is to be desired. This is because of the limited means at my command, and despite my utmost exertions. It is the custom of the bureaus to regard the artillery defenses as a part of a dormant and inactive department, and to give preference always to requisitions for troops in the field. It is next to impossible to procure new carriages and with great difficulty can necessary repairs be had for old ones. Even the repair of worn and condemned sponges is attended with great delay. Unfilled requisitions for grease have been on file for weeks, notwithstanding the urgent need which has been repeatedly represented. While stating these facts I am very far from wishing to throw blame upon the Ordnance Bureau. I know it has aided me in every way in its power and to the extent of its means I have had its cordial co-operation. The demands upon it are exhaustive and the supplies of labor and material limited. The Engineer Department has afforded what assistance it could. The labor which would have been bestowed upon the lines under its direction has suffered heavy drafts for other works, and I think on three occasions within the last few months has been necessarily withdrawn entirely to repair damages on the line of railroads. In this connection I beg leave to refer to the letter* of this date from Captain Turpin, acting chief Engineer Department, to the lieutenant-general commanding. Not only has much labor been bestowed upon the lines existing when I assumed command by the troops of the Artillery Defenses, but to complete them new and laborious works have been constructed with but little assistance from the Engineer Department. One of these extends the line of fortifications where there were previously no defensive works of any description from the plank road westward to the river, the other modifies the line of defense between the Central railroad to a point east of the Mechanicsville pike by substituting the exterior for the intermediate

* Not found.

line between those points and connecting the two by extensive and formidable works. The effect of this change is to bring the Mechanicsville and Meadow Bridges, heretofore the avenue of escape for the enemy's raiders, under the direct fire of our guns. It was from this line the four 30-pounder Parrotts were transferred to Petersburg.

No efforts have been spared to increase the efficiency of the command. The troops are drilled twice daily when not engaged on detached work. I am myself in the habit of frequently inspecting the line. Captain Marye, my assistant, and my ordnance officer, Lieutenant Brent, still more frequently, and the division commanders are required to visit each his own portion and to report the condition twice weekly. There are many competent and intelligent officers attached to the Artillery Defenses; if there are others less efficient it cannot be a greater source of regret to any one than to myself, but I found them in their positions and cannot remove them; in a particular case I have made the effort and failed. Neither officers nor men can be expected to be perfect in firing with long-range rifle guns until they shall have had some practice, and the location of the lines is not very well adapted to such practice. If, however, the commanding general desires it, a few shots will instruct them practically. I conceive, however, that it may prove rather a dangerous operation to the people of the country and to our own troops who may be in advance. Proper instructions have long since been given as to the mode of loading rifle guns. That there was much unnecessary firing and consequent waste of ammunition on the evening of the 1st instant, is very true; it was, however, in violation of existing and reiterated orders from myself; it resulted from want of judgment and experience on the part of the officer who directed it, and was stopped as soon as I could reach the ground. I have reason to hope it will not occur again.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. PEMBERTON,
Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS,
Chaffin's Farm, October 4, 1864.

Major-General HAMPTON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I am very much gratified at the operations of the cavalry, communicated in your letter of the 3d instant.* The failure of Dearing's brigade to hold the position assigned to it, I fear, will entail upon us great loss. If the enemy cannot be prevented from extending his left, he will eventually reach the Appomattox and cut us off from the south side altogether. I wish you would have Colonel Griffin's conduct inquired into, and, if necessary, he must be brought before a court-martial. I grieve with you at the loss of General Dunovant and Doctor Fontaine, two officers whom it will be difficult to replace. I have written to General Hill as regards his operations against the enemy, and have suggested, should he attempt to break the enemy's center, that you should operate against his flank or rear. I wish you would communicate with him on the subject.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS,
Chaffin's Farm, October 4, 1864.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: I beg leave to inquire whether there is any prospect of my obtaining any increase to this army. If not, it will be very difficult for us to maintain ourselves. The enemy's numerical superiority enables him to hold his lines with an adequate force, and extend on each flank with numbers so much greater than ours that we can only meet his corps, increased by recent recruits, with a division reduced by long and arduous service. We cannot fight to advantage with such odds, and there is the gravest reason to apprehend the result of every encounter. The substitution of negroes, under the act of the 17th of February last, for all detailed laborers, teamsters, &c., should be extended, not merely to detailed men in the army, but to all men detailed as mere laborers in any public employment, such as cutting wood for furnaces, mines, and the like. I trust the reasons which induced the Department not to enforce that law are not such as cannot be overcome. It is certain that the need of men was never greater, and I hope that all the aid we can get from this source will be at once given us. But the re-enforcements to be expected from the substitution of negro labor for white will not be sufficient. The men at home on various pretexts must be brought out and be put in the army at once, unless we would see the enemy reap the great moral and material advantages of a successful issue of his most costly campaign. I know it will produce suffering, but that must be endured, as all people engaged in a struggle like ours have done before. If we can get out our entire arms-bearing population in Virginia and North Carolina, and relieve all detailed men with negroes, we may be able, with the blessing of God, to keep the enemy in check to the beginning of winter. If we fail to do this the result may be calamitous. The discouragement of our people, and the great material loss that would follow the fall of Richmond, to say nothing of the great encouragement our enemies would derive from it, outweigh, in my judgment, any sacrifice and hardship that would result from bringing out all our arms-bearing men. I also beg leave to ask whether it will be in the power of the Department to furnish any horses for our artillery. The efficiency of that arm is much impaired by the scarcity and inferiority of its horses. I know the difficulties that surround this subject, and only desire to be informed whether there is any prospect of relief.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 235. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, October 4, 1864.

I. The following-named officers are detached from their present duties, and will report to General G. T. Beauregard, commanding Departments of Tennessee and Georgia and Alabama, Mississippi and East Louisiana, * * * Maj. Giles B. Cooke, assistant adjutant-general * * *

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IV. The Ninth Battalion Georgia Artillery, Maj. A. Leyden, commanding, will proceed to Richmond for duty in the heavy batteries around the city. The major commanding will report for orders to Lieutenant-General Ewell.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., October 5, 1864.

General ROBERT E. LEE:

GENERAL: I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 4th instant. It causes grave anxiety, and has received full consideration. I appreciate the full import of your inquiries and the consequences that may result from the failure to recruit your army. I have been employing, and, under the warning of your letter, shall, if possible, with zeal and energy strain the powers and means of the Department to accomplish an efficient recruitment. I inclose copies of the various orders* which have been issued with this view, and I shall endeavor to have them promptly and vigorously executed. It has been my conviction, pressed more than once on Congress, that all white men capable of bearing arms in the Confederacy, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five, should be placed in the active army for the field, except the few experts absolutely necessary for the arsenals and workshops ministering directly to the supplies and means of transport for the army, and those should be detailed, not exempted.

By the present orders you will see that, excepting only the exempts, who by law are unfortunately placed beyond my reach, I aim to reach and secure the immediate service of all such. General Kemper, now zealously employed in executing these orders, is sanguine that in two weeks' time he will be able to make a very sensible addition to your forces from these classes. In addition, all the reserves are called into active service, and, so far as not necessary to guard prisoners and posts of necessary defense, may contribute to swell your forces. You will see, too, that appropriate orders had been issued to enroll and employ all free negroes between eighteen and fifty, and likewise to obtain, by hiring in preference, but if not by impressment, for employment with the armies, some 14,000 slaves, which were estimated as the fair quota of the States east of the Mississippi. There has never been reluctance on my part to execute the law of Congress for the employment of slaves to the number of 20,000; but after the publication of the general orders on the subject I waited for the call from commanders of the numbers required. I have now given urgent instructions to the commandants of reserves to press the collection and forwarding of these slaves. From these measures altogether I trust an adequate force may be obtained to relieve the gravity of the present situation and avert apprehended consequences.

The attention of the Quartermaster-General has been called earnestly to the failing supplies of horses, and he has promised personally to see you and explain more satisfactorily than I can well do in a letter his means of meeting your necessities and the prospects before us for the

* Not found as inclosures.

future. Active measures will be taken to draw more largely from within the enemy's lines, and also to obtain a regular addition of draft animals (mules principally) from Mexico. This latter source of supply I hope to make hereafter steadily available. For the present, while certainly there is scarcity of horses in the Confederacy, there is no such deficiency as precludes the due supply of your existing necessities. The Quartermaster-General will no doubt arrange satisfactorily on that point.

I have to acknowledge my obligations for your suggestions and counsels, which are always received with satisfaction by

Yours, most truly,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 236. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, October 5, 1864.*

I. Col. W. A. Parham, Forty-first Virginia Infantry, will report to Maj. Gen. J. L. Kemper, in this city, for assignment to duty on the line of the Blackwater, where he may be charged with the duties of a provost-marshal.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF, *October 6, 1864.*

General J. F. GILMER:

Have already recommended to the Secretary of War to impress negroes for Whiting. Please see him about it. Recommendation went up to-day.

R. E. LEE.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., October 6, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Following message from telegraph operator at Gordonsville has just been sent me by the president of the company. I send it for your information:

Scout came in here about fifteen minutes ago, and reported to Major Richards that the enemy crossed the Rapidan this morning at 9 o'clock. He says he was in full view of them, and was sure it was a brigade of their cavalry. Just now another came in and reported them this side of Orange Court-House. I do not place much reliance on it, although I am prepared to leave at a moment's notice. The major has sent a special courier down to see about the truth of it. I will advise you when he returns.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., October 6, 1864—5 p. m.

General R. E. LEE,
Headquarters Army of Northern Virginia:

I send further following telegram just received from operator at Gordonsville, dated 6th:

The enemy have burned Rapidan bridge and advancing on this place. Scout just returned.

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 237. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, October 6, 1864.*

I. Capt. James Mitchell, assistant adjutant-general, now on duty with Evans' brigade, Gordon's division, Army of Northern Virginia, will report without delay to Maj. Gen. J. L. Kemper, commanding reserves, for assignment to duty.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, N. C., October 6, 1864.

Hon. S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy, Richmond:

SIR: I have received your reply to my letter of the 27th [ultimo*]. I only wish to say that I fear you have entirely misapprehended my reasons for making the request as to the Tallahassee and the Chickamauga, if it is supposed that I ever thought of them as fighting vessels in any way or needed them to resist the enemy's men of war or shot. Their weakness and notable incapacity as ships of war might be an argument against their going to sea; but I should never think of employing such vessels to fight. It is the men and guns that are wanted as well as the ships, not only to man the naval batteries now being substituted for the North Carolina and the Raleigh, which were to defend the inner bars, but to guard or picket the entrance and river, a duty devolving upon the navy, and for which there are neither forts nor vessels here. This is a matter for very serious consideration at all times. It is not only perfectly possible for the enemy to send in their armed boats by wide entrances at night, but they do and have done so repeatedly. Three nights since the Banshee, after passing the bar, was fired upon three times from an armed launch lying inside and in wait. They have repeatedly ascended the river to within a few miles of town, concealed themselves in the marsh during the day, and rowed out again at night, with muffled oars. On one occasion they surprised and carried off the mail-carrier from Fisher and cut the telegraph wire. They boast that they set fire to the cotton when we had our great loss and the Government cotton and the navy-yard was burned. I doubt this, but it is possible, and they assert it. If I had a sufficient land force, if I had

* See Part II, p. 1297. Mallory's reply not found.

any cavalry at all, I could no doubt stop anything of the kind on land; but how can I guard this broad river at night without a force afloat? It is precisely because we have so small a force that these are asked for. We need every man at home that can be available for service. These are both gunners and sailors. Their duty in the Rips batteries is as essential to the defense as, and will be more effective than, the ironclads. The river guard is purely a naval duty, and is necessary at all times, especially so when the large number of valuable vessels at anchor below are considered. Just before this request was made I was notified that we must depend on the garrison we have and what North Carolina can send us, militia, to save Wilmington. No wonder we need gunners and guns, and that I was extremely urgent in endeavoring to obtain all of which there could be hopes.

There are other considerations apart from the particular need of this force, ashore and afloat, which surely deserve at this crisis special attention. First, while the departure of this force might be considered to leave things as they have been, and as it was not here previously, we should be no weaker than heretofore, yet this is not so. It will inevitably increase the blockade, precipitate attack, render the receipt of supplies precarious. There can be no question that in the past four weeks the loss of seven of the very finest and fastest of the trading fleet is due, directly or indirectly, to the expedition of the Tallahassee—directly, on account of their having been compelled to give up their coal to her, and show the black smoke of the soft coal in a sea swarming with cruisers, and with speed diminished nearly one-half; the days when vessels successfully ran the blockade with North Carolina coal are long passed; indirectly, so that in consequence of that ship having gone out from and returned here the fleet has been doubled. Last week gives us the record of the Lynx, the Night Hawk, and the Condor lost, with much valuable cargo, and the Owl in going out compelled to throw over her cargo of cotton, if indeed she be not caught. It was from an earnest consideration of these points, as well as the paramount necessity of obtaining everything available for the defense, that I addressed you, and, in addition, I was urged by the unanimous sentiment of the community and the State, not to be neglected, the report of General Beauregard on this very subject, and further, by the fact that, as far as I can learn, the officers of the navy agree with the views expressed.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, October 6, 1864.

Major-General GILMER,
Chief of Engineers, Richmond:

GENERAL: Your two letters of 30th of September and 1st of October received. In reference to impressment of labor, I have telegraphed, both to you and the Secretary of War, requesting the enrolling officers to effect this purpose. They have been gathering the free negroes, and they are prepared with officers, detailed men, and districts to do the work promptly, much more so, than I can, who have not an officer and man to spare. My district is limited to defenses of Wilmington, and includes but a few counties, which I have heavily taxed already, and which has supplied three-fourths of all the labor expended. I am at

them again. You have no idea of the difficulty, the delay, and the obstacles. Since the 16th, when I wrote you so urgently, I have not received seventy-five hands, and that would not make up the deficiency incurred in the meantime by sickness and desertion. The demands are enormous on the very small space I have. The quartermaster and commissariat of General Lee's army depends on my engineer labor, and I can neither help it nor remedy it. Instead of carrying on all the necessary works at once, which ought to be done in ten days by such a force as North Carolina can spare from her 300,000 negroes, I can only slowly carry on one work at a time. All aid is grudged and precious time lost. The works you propose have all been well considered and approved long since between General Hébert and myself. They are practicable only with a force very largely increased, both of labor and men, not otherwise, because I must complete the water defenses first, especially since Farragut's success may embolden their navy. You may see what my prospect for aid is, either in troops or labor, by the accompanying correspondence,* which I inclose for your information and that of the War Department. The lines you propose can only be constructed by troops in position. Only after the attack is developed and a foothold gained will anybody be convinced that Wilmington is not safe, and only then will an unarmed and disorganized body of old farmers be sent down here. In the meantime, I am doing all I can. Please have the Conscript Bureau impress the slaves out of my district. Order it by telegraph.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 238. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, October 7, 1864.*

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XIII. The general commanding the Department of North Carolina, having represented that there is an immediate and urgent necessity for the employment of 2,000 slaves for service with the army at Wilmington, N. C., and it being impracticable to obtain them by contract, these slaves will be collected by impressment. There will be exempt from impressment all slaves under the age of eighteen years and over the age of fifty years. Not more than one slave out of five on any one plantation of the ages specified will be taken, and when there is but one slave of the description mentioned belonging to an owner he will not be taken; nor shall slaves employed in the domestic or family service exclusively be impressed. Efforts will be made to distribute the burden as equally as possible, and the general directions in General Orders, No. 138, series 1863, and General Orders, No. 32, current series, will be adhered to. The Bureau of Conscription is charged with the prompt execution of this order.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[OCTOBER 7, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting engagement on the Darbytown and New Market roads, see Part I, p. 852.]

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* Not found as inclosures.

RANDOLPH'S HOUSE,
Near Richmond, October 7, 1864.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Northern Virginia:

I have not reported formally for duty, because I doubted the propriety of my being assigned to a position, in my crippled condition, now occupied by officers of vigorous health. If I can be of service in any position, I desire to be assigned to duty. If there is no duty to which I can be assigned on this side of the Mississippi River without displacing an officer, I will cheerfully accept service in the Trans-Mississippi Department. My physicians give me but little reason to expect to recover the use of my right arm within a year; hence my desire to be assigned at once to any service that I may be able to discharge, or that I may have an extended leave of absence.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., October 7, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel PALMER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I desire to call the attention of the lieutenant-general commanding to the weakness of my line. My division now occupies the lines formerly occupied by Hoke's division, my division, and two brigades of Mahone's division. This, if continued, I apprehend, will be unsafe. If my line could be diminished until it embraced only that occupied by Hoke's division and my own, it would give much greater security. If this cannot be done, I would ask that my right brigade may be relieved, so that I can strengthen my left and improve my defensive works. In this connection, it may not be out of place to suggest that the free and other negroes of Petersburg and vicinity might be made greatly to aid in the construction of rear lines and other works not exposed to dangerous fire from the enemy's line.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 239. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, October 8, 1864.

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XXIII. Lieut. Col. R. C. Smith, First Maryland Cavalry, is assigned to the command of the camp of the Maryland Line, near this city.

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XXXI. So much of paragraph I, Special Orders, No. 235, current series, as refers to Maj. Giles B. Cooke, assistant adjutant-general, is hereby revoked. Major Cooke is assigned to duty at the headquarters of General R. E. Lee, and will report accordingly.

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XXXIII. Brig. Gen. G. W. C. Lee will resume the command of his brigade, Local Defense Troops.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[OCTOBER 8, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, relating to number of guns captured in engagement on Darbytown and New Market roads, October 7, see Part I, p. 852.]

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS,
Chaffin's, October 8, 1864.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh:

GOVERNOR: It is necessary that this army should be increased. The enemy's greatly superior numbers enable him to extend his flanks in both directions, until at last, if not prevented, he will envelop us. He is also daily receiving re-enforcements, and I wish to draw to me every man I can. I have written to General Holmes to endeavor to replace the Fiftieth North Carolina at Plymouth and Washington by reserves, and the Sixty-seventh North Carolina at Kinston also. The Sixty-eighth North Carolina at Morganton, as far as I know, is not now required there. The two last named regiments are in the State service, but the former I believe is in the Confederate. If there is any objection to turning over the Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth Regiments to the Confederate Government, will circumstances permit your assigning them to duty under me till the active campaign ceases? Have you not some battalion of State cavalry that could relieve the Sixty-sixth North Carolina Cavalry at Kinston? These four regiments would be of the greatest benefit to me. I requested General Beauregard, on his late visit to Wilmington and Charleston, to exchange portions of the garrisons at each, so that we could have a part of the garrison at least at Wilmington that had served under fire. The breaking out of the yellow fever at Charleston, and the assignment of General Beauregard to duty in the Southwest, will prevent this arrangement. I know now no way of accomplishing this desirable object but to send some of the regiments of this army to Wilmington and draw from there some with which it is garrisoned. Do you think the regiments from this army, which are much depleted, could be filled up at Wilmington, and that in the meantime the deficit in numbers be supplied by reserves? Another difficulty arises in the character of troops. The troops at Wilmington are mostly artillery, while those I have are infantry. If Young's and Moore's battalions, with any unassigned company, were organized into a regiment under some good officer, say Major Reilly, this regiment, with the Thirty-sixth and Fortieth (heavy artillery), might be replaced as I have suggested, provided instructors could be obtained for the regiments replacing them, and their ranks recruited. I believe Wilmington would be better defended by this arrangement. I fear, however, there will be great difficulty in making it. I will write to General Whiting on the subject and see what are the objections. I have not forgotten your anxiety on the subject of the commanding officer at Wilmington. I share it in an equal degree, but I can find no

one whom I deem better. He is a man of unquestionable ability, versed in the particular knowledge suited to his position, but whether he would be able at the required time to apply these qualifications and to maintain the confidence of his command is with me questionable. I derived much comfort from the report of the condition of things by General Beauregard. He found everything in good order, much work had been done, and saw no evidence of the cause that excites my anxiety. At that time, as I informed Your Excellency, it was my intention to place General Beauregard in command of the post in the event of an attack. His having been placed on duty in Georgia will now prevent, and I have no one to send in his place.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Chaffin's, October 8, 1864.

General T. H. HOLMES,
Commanding North Carolina Reserves, Raleigh, N. C.:

GENERAL: It is of the utmost importance that this army should be strengthened to enable it to cope with the greatly superior and daily increasing force of General Grant. I wish to know if the place of the Fiftieth North Carolina Regiment at Plymouth and Washington cannot be filled by Senior Reserves, the Sixty-seventh North Carolina at Kinston be relieved by Junior Reserves. The Sixty-eighth North Carolina is at Morganton, and should other troops be required there, could not they be relieved by reserves? The Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth Regiments are in the State service, but I will write to Governor Vance, who I believe takes as deep an interest in the defense of the whole country, as in any part, to know if there is any objection to turning them over to the Confederate service, or, at least, if they cannot be assigned to duty with me till the campaign closes. It needs no argument from me to prove that the defense of the James River position is vital to the safety of North Carolina. If that is passed the State may expect to experience the same calamities that have been suffered in Virginia. I believe the Tenth North Carolina (heavy artillery) is at Goldsborough; could not it be replaced by reserves so that it could be sent either to Wilmington or this army, as most required? I wish you would see Governor Vance on any or all of these points in which his aid and concurrence are desired and ask it in my name.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

NEAR RICHMOND, VA., *October 9, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

In discussing the movements of the enemy, according to newspaper reports, Captain Goree suggested that Sheridan would probably send his infantry to the relief of Sherman. I presume that our diversion in Missouri has drawn all of the spare troops in the West to that State,

and it is not unlikely that Grant will be obliged to relieve Sherman with some of his troops. I send you the suggestion that you may advise General Early that he may look for it.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., October 9, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. H. PALMER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: It appears that Hancock's corps in my front extends from the river to perhaps the Jerusalem plank road. At any rate the works are but thinly manned, and the character of the troops very inferior. The vedettes posted at night in front of the enemy's works are said to be some fifteen or twenty yards apart. One and, in some places, two men are in each pit. The strength of the front line varies perhaps at different points with the regiments on duty. Deserters uniformly represent their line as weaker than our line. Some deserters represent a small force in reserve behind the rear line. The troops of the Second Corps are mainly substitutes and conscripts. Those that come to us represent these men mostly indisposed to fight, and anxious to get out of the service. In some cases it is said nearly whole regiments desire to desert to us, and would be glad to be captured. Officers labor to make the men vigilant, but there is evidently much carelessness on the part of the men. The artillery seems to be much reduced on the enemy's lines, and nearly all pieces are withdrawn from front line. The 10-inch mortar that formerly shelled the city, is said to have been taken to City Point. I have no doubt that a good line of battle would sweep everything in my front. A few men could capture the enemy's vedettes at two or three points on my line for a short distance, but would have to extend to a long distance on their line to get a few prisoners, and the difficulty would be to get back to our works after having drawn the enemy's fire, which, of course, would be directed to our front lines. This difficulty mainly arises from the abatis and chevaux-de-frise in front of our breast-works, and is a serious one. By carrying the whole line of works in my front we would capture some artillery and perhaps a large number of prisoners. We could swing to the right, cut and destroy a part of their railroad, and by pressing on might rout their whole left wing. As an objection, it can be properly urged that the distance to the enemy's extreme left is too great to make quick work of the operation, and that the enemy's line may perhaps be cut farther to the right with greater advantage to the same object.

It may also be urged that the enemy are said to have good ditches in front of their batteries, and we can see a strong abatis in front of their infantry rifle-pits. We might, with a good line of battle, simply move out, capture, and hold the whole of the enemy's works in our front. This would increase the length of their line and make them feel the necessity of greater strength in men, and the diminution of their forces on the extreme right and left. The point on our right at which we should have to connect the works thus captured with our present line would have to be judiciously selected, otherwise the enemy's batteries farther to the right would take our troops in the captured lines in reverse, and thus cause them to fall back under a damaging fire. The extent of damage that could be done to the enemy, and the small

number of prisoners which could be captured by 75 or 100 men, moving simply on the enemy's picket-line, seems scarcely sufficient to compensate for the loss even of a few of our men, and would not perhaps render the enemy any more timid than they now are in regard to their whole line, and we have several weak picket or vedette lines and salients very accessible to reprisals on the part of the enemy. The game once commenced would perhaps be kept up as long as we occupied our relative positions or until the assailants found it very unprofitable. After making one successful effort of this kind, it would become necessary to strengthen our picket-line considerably. I present the foregoing reflections simply for any consideration in regard to my front which they may seem to merit. Our lines and those of the enemy have here been carefully drawn, pressed closely together, and for months have been subjects of study. A movement here should be perhaps very carefully considered before attempted.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 10, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:

GENERAL: I have great hope that the operation of General Orders, No. 76, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, will bring much strength to our armies in the field. The difficulty now will be to get it promptly carried into effect. I think if paragraph III can be so modified as to require the re-examination by select medical boards of all men exempted because of physical disability that many additional recruits would be obtained. Major-General Kemper informs me that there are 19,000 such men reported in Virginia and 32,000 in North Carolina. He thinks 10,000 effective men out of the number in Virginia could be obtained if a rigorous re-examination could be had. These men have been examined by district boards. From all the information I get, Grant's army is being heavily re-enforced, and additions are being made daily. He expects to accumulate a force by which he can extend beyond our right and left, when I fear it will be impossible to keep him out of Richmond.

I am, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS,
Chaffin's, October 10, 1864.

General A. P. HILL,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Grant is bringing to him all the re-enforcements he can get. I have heard those that were collected around Washington are being brought down. I think re-enforcements were received this side last night. There was crossing on the bridge and much commotion on his lines to the right. Probably they were new troops. I have also received information that on getting his re-enforcements he intended to move by his right flank, approaching from the Chickahominy, and by

his left to the South Side road. I wish you would see that all extra duty men in all the departments—wagoners, cooks, clerks, couriers, &c.—that can possibly be spared be placed in the ranks; that all the reserves, militia, &c., around Petersburg be put in the trenches, and that as many of your old troops as you think it safe to take out be held in readiness for field service. Tell Hampton to have his scouts on the alert and all his men prepared for action. The time stated for this movement is said to be from 10th to 15th instant. We must drive them back at all costs.

Very truly,

R. E. LEE.

RALEIGH, *October 11, 1864.*

General B. BRAGG,
Richmond, Va.:

There is a meeting of Governors at Augusta on Monday, the 17th,* to consult about how to spare more men for the service. I am very anxious to know what North Carolina has done in comparison with the other States. Can you furnish the information from the Adjutant-General's Office? If so, write me to Augusta, Ga.

Z. B. VANCE,
Governor.

[Indorsement.]

Without a very protracted and laborious research, it is not possible to ascertain the number of men. The regiments from North Carolina were unusually full at the outset. There are in the Confederate service sixty-seven regiments, five battalions, and twelve unattached companies. Two State regiments are at present doing service under Confederate authority, but have not been transferred to Confederate service. Thus far nine battalions of reserves have been organized.

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
October 12, 1864.

Respectfully returned to General Bragg.

SAML. W. MELTON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Inclosed is a tabulated statement, which will furnish comparison with other States.†

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 11, 1864.

General R. E. LEE:

GENERAL: Your telegraphic dispatch in reference to the defense of Stony Creek Depot has just been received and the necessary orders have been executed. If the Holcombe Legion and the regiment from Weldon can be placed and kept on the right of our present infantry line, I can easily place two or more regiments at Stony Creek, where they will not only be advantageously posted, but where the horses can

* For resolutions passed, &c., October 17, see p. 1149.
† Not found.

recruit. As the lines are held at present, they are not only very insecure, but very irregular, and onerous duty is thrown on my command. Frequently several brigades of infantry are withdrawn suddenly from the right, thus leaving a gap which it is impossible for me to fill, except by a line of pickets. If our only duty was to hold a portion of the line it could be easily discharged, but as we have to picket a long line and to watch the cavalry of the enemy we can only occupy the works temporarily. If any assault is made on our right, I feel satisfied that it will be made at or near Dabney's house. I think that strong works should be erected there, and that a force of infantry should be kept there permanently. I have made a line from the right of the infantry works to Hatcher's Run, in front of and below Cousins' house, and I can hold the line from Dyson's house near Dabney's to the creek. If the two regiments sent for are placed on my left from Dyson's, they can fill a very important position on our lines and close a dangerous gap. My line of pickets would be in front of them, and my dismounted men should remain constantly in the works I have put up. The line would then be a continuous one to Hatcher's Run, covering all approaches to the plank road. This disposition of the regiments would enable me to put a strong guard at Stony Creek. It is impossible for me to put a brigade in close supporting distance to my works, because no water can be had in a suitable position—the only supply being too near the lines to render it safe to camp there. Dearing is now at Burgess' Mill, and all his dismounted men are on the lines, as well as a part of Butler's. If the line we have constructed can be held till supports come up, there will be no fear of the enemy's reaching the plank road.

I am, general, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, October 11, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

SIR: I beg you will call the attention of the President to my several letters to yourself, the Secretary of the Navy, and to General Lee, also to General Beauregard's report on the subject of the expedition of the Tallahassee and the Chickamauga. Since those letters I have an additional and very urgent reason for protesting against this force leaving this post. By the Annie, which vessel we fortunately saved from destruction by the enemy three nights since, I learn from an English gentleman, who has been running the blockade here and who is just from New York, where he exerted himself to procure useful information—first, that ten steam launches were nearly completed when he left, expressly to stop and destroy inside the bars the blockade-runners; they are well armed and carry fifty men; they will be very dangerous in every way. A naval force afloat here is absolutely necessary at all times, much more with this prospect. Second, Farragut is preparing his expedition; of this there can be no doubt. Under these circumstances I most earnestly ask for this force to man batteries, for which I have no troops, and to aid as river guard. Every single vessel that has arrived during the present moon has most narrowly escaped; four have been wrecked, stopped, and run ashore on the bar directly under the guns of Fort Fisher; one of these was fired by the enemy; two are lying there

now loaded with most valuable Government stores. My men, who ought to be at their work and at their drill, have to be transformed into boatmen and wreckers, and at night have to stay in these wrecks to keep off the enemy's boats. This is peculiarly a naval duty. What is it for the navy to burn fishing smacks off New England if they lend no hand to defense at home, and this, too, when they are, to a man, eager and anxious to aid?

Three nights since the enemy, with a fleet of barges and a gun-boat of light draught, made an attempt to destroy the Condor, which lies on the north reef, with very valuable stores on board. Colonel Lamb had a guard of eighteen men on board, and, as usual, his channel batteries manned. At the same time the steamer Annie, from Halifax, with cargo of provisions, finding the enemy with their launches on the bar, attempting to move, grounded. The captain sent his boats to the Condor, and the guard, mistaking them for the enemy, fired. The accident saved both the Annie and the Condor, for the fort opened at once, and the enemy, finding all on the alert, withdrew. A chance shot struck the gun-boat and sunk her instantly; her wreck now lies on the bar. I mention this only to show what sort of work this little garrison is daily and nightly at, and to justify me in demanding aid from some naval force afloat. Fortunately they did not get out this moon, and they are safe here for a week or ten days at least. Before they can get out there will no doubt be such a fleet as will keep them here altogether; but they are still impressing coal from vessels which have little or none to spare and thereby endangering their safety. We have already paid for the expedition of the Tallahassee with ten or eleven of the best ships, for the four lost during the last ten days are due to the great increase of the fleet brought about by that unfortunate cruise. The difficulty of getting in supplies is trebled. Both bars swarm with boats; we can't see them from shore. At what better work can this naval force be put, with or without their vessels, than operating against the enemy at our own doors? I beg you to consider this, in the name of this place, which has a smaller force than ever in the whole war and less prospect of more, and in the name of the community which is unanimously and bitterly opposed to it.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

OCTOBER 19, 1864.

Respectfully submitted in conformity with General Whiting's request to the consideration of the President.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Second indorsement.]

OCTOBER 21, 1864.

Returned to the Secretary of War.

It is to be regretted that in presenting his views General Whiting should so frequently have violated the courtesy due to the naval arm of the military service. The vessels referred to are not "privateers," and such an offense to the Navy as was committed in so calling them should have caused the return of his letter as one not entitled to a place on the files of the War Department. His strictures on the cruise

of the Tallahassee evinced both ignorance of the events and disregard of the rights of others on whose services it was no part of his duty to report. General Bragg will inquire into the wants of the service at Wilmington, having been ordered there for that purpose before these letters were referred to me.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 242. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, October 12, 1864.*

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II. The commander of each company of the reserve forces of the State of Virginia will, under the direction of his battalion or regimental commander, immediately detail five of the most intelligent, active, and reliable men of his company who are under the age of forty-five years and order them to report for conscript guard duty to the enrolling officer of the county in which his company was raised. Duplicates of the orders making such details will in all cases be forwarded to the headquarters of the reserve forces in Virginia. The details will be for sixty days, subject to be renewed or substituted at the discretion of the general of reserves.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[OCTOBER 13, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting engagement on the Darbytown road, see Part I, p. 853.]

HEADQUARTERS,
October 13, 1864—5.15 p. m.

Lieut. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON,
Commanding:

GENERAL: General Lee bids me say that he has received your note. He thinks General Field had better hold his present position to-night, and that the connections with Gary be made as suggested by General Stevens and yourself. Hoke will remain where he is, touching Field, and will extend to his right so as to throw Colquitt's brigade to the New Market road, and to-morrow General Lee will order one of the battalions which re-enforced us to-day to the line from there to Fort Gilmer. The enemy has gone back; they sent one brigade up the Poor-House road, which was driven back by Hoke's skirmishers.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. S. VENABLE,
Aide-de-Camp.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Raleigh, October 14, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President, &c.:

SIR: I beg leave to enter my most respectful and earnest remonstrance against the sailing of the two privateers from the port of Wil-

mington. Ten or twelve valuable steamers have already been lost in consequence of the cruise of the Tallahassee, and among them the noble steamer Advance, which alone, I respectfully submit, has been of far more value to the Confederacy than all of our privateers combined. For these and other and obvious reasons I hope these two vessels may remain in the Cape Fear to assist in its defense.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. B. VANCE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 244. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, October 14, 1864.*

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XXIII. Maj. L. R. Page, assistant adjutant-general, is relieved from his present duties with Lieutenant-General Ewell, and will report immediately to Major-General Kemper for assignment to duty as assistant inspector-general of conscription.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *October 15, 1864.*

General B. BRAGG,
Commanding Armies, &c.:

SIR: The condition and threatening aspect of affairs in the District of the Cape Fear River renders it, in my judgment, desirable that you should exercise immediate command over the troops and defenses of Wilmington and its approaches. For this purpose you will temporarily leave your office here in charge of one or more of the members of your staff and proceed to Wilmington to assume for the time being the command above indicated.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

At a meeting of the Governors of the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi, held in Augusta, Ga., on Monday, the 17th day of October, 1864, Governor William Smith presiding, after a full, free, and harmonious consultation and interchange of counsel, the following, among other views, were expressed:

Resolved, That there is nothing in the present aspect of public affairs to cause any abatement in our zeal in the prosecution of the war to the accomplishment of a peace based on the independence of the Confederate States; and to give encouragement to our brave soldiers in the field, and to strengthen the Confederate authorities in the pursuit of this end, we will use our best exertions to increase the effective force of our armies.

Resolved, That the interests of each of our States are identical in the present struggle for self-government, and wisdom and true patriotism

dictate that the military force of each should aid the others against invasion and subjugation, and for this purpose we will recommend to our several Legislatures to repeal all such laws as prohibit the Executives from sending their forces beyond their respective limits, in order that they may render temporary service wherever most urgently required.

Resolved, That whilst it is our purpose to use every exertion to increase the strength and efficiency of our State and Confederate forces, we respectfully and earnestly request that the Confederate authorities will send to the field every able-bodied man, without exception, in any of its various departments, whose places can be filled by either disabled officers and soldiers, senior reserves, or negroes, and dispense with the use of all provost and post guard, except in important cities, or localities where the presence of large bodies of troops make them necessary, and with all passport agents upon railroads not in the immediate vicinity of the armies, as we consider these agents an unnecessary annoyance to good citizens and of no possible benefit to the country.

Resolved, That we recommend our respective Legislatures to pass stringent laws for the arrest and return to their commands of all deserters and stragglers from the Confederate armies or State troops, and that it be made the special duty, under appropriate penalties, of all civil and military officers to arrest and deliver to the proper authorities all such delinquents.

And whereas the public enemy having proclaimed the freedom of our slaves, are forcing into their armies the able-bodied portion thereof, the more effectually to wage their cruel and bloody war against us; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the true policy and obvious duty of all slave owners timely to remove their slaves from the line of the enemy's approach, and especially those able to bear arms; and when they shall fail to do so, that it should be made the duty of the proper authorities to enforce the performance of this duty, and to give to such owners all necessary assistance as far as practicable.

Resolved, That the course of the enemy in appropriating our slaves who happen to fall into their hands to purposes of war, seems to justify a change of policy on our part; and whilst owners of slaves under the circumstances should freely yield them to their country, we recommend to our authorities, under proper regulations, to appropriate such part of them to the public service as may be required.

Resolved, That the States have the right to export such productions and to import such supplies as may be necessary for State use, or for the comfort or support of their troops in service, upon any vessels owned or chartered by them; and that we request Congress at its next session to pass laws removing all restrictions which have been imposed by Confederate authorities upon such exports and imports by the States.

And, lastly, we deem it not inappropriate to declare our firm and unalterable purpose, as we believe it to be that of our fellow-citizens, to maintain our right of self-government, to establish our independence, and to uphold the rights and sovereignty of the States or to perish in the attempt.

Resolved, That the chairman be requested to send a copy of these resolutions to His Excellency President Davis, one each to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to be laid before the respective bodies, and one to the Governor of each State in the Confederacy.

HEADQUARTERS LONGSTREET'S CORPS,
Near Richmond, Va., October 18, 1864.

Lieut. Col. H. E. PEYTON,
Asst. Adjt. and Insp. Gen., Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: On the 7th of August Lieutenant-General Anderson and staff left Richmond with Kershaw's division to co-operate with Lieutenant-General Early in the Valley of Virginia; returned to Gordonsville on the 22d of September. The division was ordered on that date to report to Lieutenant-General Early, and Lieutenant-General Anderson to report with his staff to headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, which he did on the 27th of September.*

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. W. FAIRFAX,
Major and Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *October 18, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond, Va.:

Can I have the battalion of cavalry recommended by General Lee from South Carolina?

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to General B. Bragg.

JOHN W. RIELY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy sent to the Secretary of War.)

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, N. C., October 18, 1864.

General ROBERT E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia, Petersburg:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of 8th instant.† I hope the battalion of cavalry you recommended to be sent from South Carolina will be promptly forwarded. I am in great hopes of getting a respectable force from the State, though I could wish to have it at once to put in some sort of training as well as familiarity with the locality. I am very glad that you have advocated the detention of the privateer expedition. I have most earnestly protested against it. They are still, however, impressing coal with a view to go out on the dark of this moon. This will be about the 23d. As no orders have yet come to stop it, I hope you will press your recommendation. The Tallahassee's cruise has already cost some ten ships and your army a very large amount of supplies, and this one, if persisted in, will make all receipts extremely precarious. The enemy have prepared ten steam launches,

* Some matters of detail omitted from this letter.
† Not found.

which will be in operation on the dark of the present moon, will give us great trouble, and render more necessary than ever the presence of a naval force afloat. With regard to the proposed replacing of a portion of the troops here, it is a question of great importance, and I have weighed it well. I understood that General Beauregard had strongly urged that Basinger's battalion should be sent here as of experience as artillerists under fire. I would like to exchange Young's and Moore's battalions of heavy artillery for an equivalent of any kind of troops, infantry or artillery; the former would be preferred. I have but five batteries, not seven as you infer. As to the Thirty-sixth and Fortieth Regiments now garrisoning the forts at the entrance, I do not wish those sent away or exchanged, for the reason that their field officers are excellent and masters of the position, and the men in general good, tolerably proficient as artillerists, and thoroughly familiar with all the localities. I could not replace Colonels Lamb and Hedrick and their two excellent lieutenant-colonels, Taylor and Tait. I rely greatly on these officers, to whose vigilance, discipline, and activity, as well as to their singular engineering practical skill, I am much indebted. The benefit would be very great if a few skeleton regiments of veteran troops, however small their numbers, could be added to these forts to perform the extensive outpost and picket duty which now devolves upon the small artillery garrison. The extended development of old works and the necessary construction of new have not been followed by a corresponding increase of the garrison. The number of guns has been much more than doubled, while the force is far less than what it originally was.

Please to look at the maps. On Oak Island I have 600 men for duty. Those garrison the two forts, Caswell and Campbell, which between them should have 1,400 at least, and Battery Shaw, besides picketing the banks to Lockwood's Folly. This inlet could readily be made a base for the enemy. The garrisons are not movable. Hence the need of a force in advance on Oak Island to prevent the occupation of any point whence the bar might be reached at long range. Smith's Island, which is the key of the harbor, affecting both entrances, has about 900 men. It is quite extensive, having ten miles of sea-coast. It should, in event of attack, have a good regiment of infantry in addition. Three hundred of your splendid skirmishers would be invaluable on this island. At Fort Fisher there are 800 now. This work is made to avoid the land, and especially liable from the hydrography of the position to be isolated from succor, and should be supported by infantry and light artillery, permanently posted at or near the Sugar Loaf range. Any number, however small, of your depleted infantry regiments would be of the very greatest service here, as giving confidence to the artillery and having a field temporarily suited to the skill and valor shown on so many fields. The efficiency of the artillery would be much increased by their relief from outpost duty and return to their guns. Smith's Island is specially mentioned. In my opinion, if the enemy are not able to detach a strong co-operating land expedition, and design confining themselves chiefly to naval operations to close the harbor, Farragut will endeavor to make a lodgment on this island; hence the importance of increasing the garrison with infantry in advance. The enemy should always be met on the beach. The artillery is required at its guns. The cheering character of the news from the Army of the West gives the hope that a decisive result in that quarter will so materially aid you that a small portion of your noble veterans may be sent here to recruit and pass the winter. We have the yellow

fever here unmistakably. So far it is not epidemic. If warm weather comes on it may so turn out, and that will seriously embarrass me, as well as affect your supplies—the more, that it will not at all interfere with any plans the enemy may have of naval attack. I am at a loss to know where Farragut is. General Maury telegraphs me that on the 11th he was in Mobile Bay, and had gone to New Orleans to fit out an expedition. This does not tally with news from the North. I have late reports from New Berne. Yellow fever violent there and at Beaufort and Morehead City. The enemy have moved their troops out of their works into the woods. Heckman's brigade, 1,100 strong, had arrived at Morehead. Had we the available force the time is opportune to strike them a heavy blow, but I would not advocate it unless it could be done by troops now in the State. I beg you will press forward the battalion of cavalry. The communication with the enemy by traitors in this city along the sounds is constant, and I am not able to break it up for want of mounted force. The fleet receives newspapers the second day with considerable regularity, and their boats land almost nightly. I hope you will consider the need of adding some veteran infantry to the garrisons. I will endeavor my best to make the State levies do for the movable force on which the system of defense is arranged, and on which we must rely.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 248. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, October 19, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

XVIII. Authority is hereby granted to Brig. Gen. J. A. Walker, commanding, &c., to impress from the counties of Pittsylvania, Franklin, Patrick, and Henry 150 slaves for work on the fortifications at Danville. Care will be taken as nearly as practicable to conform to the directions contained in General Orders, No. 32, current series, and General Orders, No. 138, of series of 1863.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., October 19, 1864.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

SIR: I regret to hear from several sources unfavorable reports of the condition of my old brigade, now detached from my command and serving on the north side of James River. It would seem that the morale and discipline of the brigade is bad and growing worse, and that discord and dissatisfaction are likely soon to prevail in this com-

mand. Under these circumstances I am induced to urge that immediate measures be taken to place it under a good commander. I need only refer to Lieutenant-General Ewell in order to show that its present commander is entirely unqualified for his position. Some weeks since I recommended that Lieut. Col. R. B. Snowden, of the Forty-fourth and Twenty-fifth consolidated Tennessee regiments, should be assigned to the command of the brigade, with temporary rank. Colonel Snowden has been indisposed, and no action, as far as I can learn, has been taken on my recommendation. The state of suspense in which this matter is left has doubtless created parties and given rise to intrigues and dissensions in which the real good of the brigade is neglected or sacrificed for individual advantages. Under these circumstances, I am induced to make other suggestions, such as I trust will enable the proper authorities to act promptly and restore the brigade to a good condition.

I am convinced that a good permanent commander is the one thing needful in this brigade, and a cure for all its evils. Lieutenant-Colonel Snowden is undoubtedly the best material for a commander now present with the brigade, and he is for a time disabled.

Col. A. S. Marks, the former colonel of the Seventeenth Tennessee Regiment, of this brigade, and now a member of General Forrest's general court-martial, is one of the ablest regimental commanders that I have been associated with in the Confederate service, and will make an excellent brigade commander. A telegraphic communication would command his presence with the brigade if the President should think proper to place him in command of it. If it were not that I should extend my letter beyond reasonable limits I might enumerate more explicitly Colonel Marks' qualifications, and might dwell upon the superior condition of his regiment in the Army of Tennessee, all of which are known to and will doubtless be attested by the commanding general of the Confederate armies now at Richmond.

It has been suggested to me that Governor Isham G. Harris, of Tennessee, would be a suitable officer to command the troops of Tennessee now in Virginia, and that he might add by his name and influence to the strength of his command. To this I revert only to commend it, should such an appointment be preferred by the President.

Either of the above appointments would be more than acceptable to the brigade. Should necessity compel delay in giving this brigade a permanent commander I would suggest that Maj. G. C. Brown, assistant adjutant and inspector general, serving with Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell, is a Tennesseean, has had much experience in the field, is said to be an efficient officer, and might be assigned to its temporary command.

It has been urged to me that to save the brigade from threatened evils it might be returned to my command, where it could receive more especial attention than it can ever receive in its present detached condition.

Whenever the commanding general thinks proper to order it to report to me without disintegrating any other command I shall be pleased to receive it, and add it to the present strength of my division, and will hope to be of service in restoring its efficiency.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 20, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I think that the enemy's next attack will be on this side or from this side by crossing to the rear of General Pickett's position. To meet such a move on the part of the enemy it seems to me that my corps should be together on this side. Anderson's two divisions where Pickett now is; or if Anderson's other division cannot be spared from Petersburg, it might there be held in reserve for those lines, or ready to re-enforce in front of Bermuda Hundred. With my entire corps I could resist an advance upon my lines, and in case the enemy should make his advance by crossing from this side to the rear of Pickett's present position I could swing around and get the position that he now has on this side of the river, and get his bridge in his rear and thus cut off that force.

I apprehend that the enemy will begin his important operations early next week, and Kershaw's division should be here in time to take part with us. I fear the division is worse than useless where it is, and therefore urge its return to the corps at once.

Most respectfully, yours,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
Near Richmond, Va., October 20, 1864.

The attention of the lieutenant-general commanding has been directed to the large number of irresponsible parties wandering about the rear and flanks of the Federal army, who claim to be scouts of the Army of Northern Virginia. They do us no good, but by their practice of violating General Orders, No. 60, in the robbery and maltreatment of Federal deserters, and by robbing prisoners and citizens, they bring disgrace and detriment to the service.

By orders from headquarters Army of Northern Virginia, all parties claiming to be scouts will be arrested who are not authorized by the cavalry commander or whose names are not sent to General Hampton from army headquarters.

The lieutenant-general commanding desires you to give such orders as will at once put a stop to this independent scouting. He thinks that two good scouts will be enough for your division and he wishes when you shall have selected them, to send up their names for proper authorization. Let them be specially instructed in their duties, and warned against the malpractices above spoken of. We may thus hope to give some system, order, and responsibility to the performance of the important duty of procuring information of the enemy's movements.

I am, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

G. M. SORREL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

(To division commanders.)

Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee commanding, for October 20, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
First Army Corps (Longstreet)	18	.....	18	21
Pickett's division	401	4,967	6,553	11,443
Field's division	366	3,491	5,285	11,908
Hoke's division	336	3,787	5,189	11,770
Total	1,121	12,245	17,045	35,142
Third Army Corps (Hill)	18	.....	18	18
Heth's division	372	4,540	5,685	13,158
Wilcox's division	405	4,730	6,180	11,975
Mahone's division	393	4,368	6,138	13,275
Total	1,188	13,638	18,021	38,426
Cavalry (Hampton)	15	.....	15	16
Hampton's division	114	1,330	1,975	6,249
W. H. F. Lee's division	148	2,834	3,638	6,251
Dearing's brigade	77	1,211	1,645	2,574
Horse Artillery	3	78	89	126
Total	357	5,453	7,362	15,216
Artillery (Pendleton)	8	10	18	18
First Army Corps	90	1,744	2,071	2,764
Third Army Corps	101	1,618	2,158	3,118
Anderson's corps	61	874	1,092	1,534
Total	260	4,246	5,339	7,434
First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia (Wise).	158	2,248	2,866	4,625
Provost Guard (Bridgford)	22	194	285	357
Grand total	3,106	38,024	50,918	101,200

NOTE.—Hoke's division, serving temporarily in First Army Corps, belongs properly to Anderson's corps. Kershaw's division of this (First Army) corps is detached, serving in Valley District. No return received of the troops serving in the Valley District, nor of Johnson's division, of Anderson's corps, nor of the Second and Third Military Districts, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 21, 1864.

HON. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: I consider it very important to supply the garrisons in the forts below Wilmington with thirty days' provisions in case the enemy should succeed in cutting them off from the city. I directed General Whiting to endeavor to obtain provisions for the purpose in North Carolina, but he has not succeeded in doing so, nor do I know that it is in his power. The amount of subsistence issued to the army in Virginia and North Carolina is not sufficient to enable us to retain what is required for those garrisons for the time indicated. We now get bacon for the troops only once in four days, and the commissary department informed Colonel Cole, chief commissary of subsistence of the army, that we must rely on cattle. As the collection of supplies is in the hands of the officers of the commissary of subsistence department,

Colonel Cole does not know what number of cattle or what amount of provisions he can count upon, so as to make any arrangements to provide for those garrisons from stores that may come into his hands. I think that it would be better that the commissary of subsistence department should provide the desired supplies if practicable, and I respectfully ask that you will direct that it be done if it be in the power of that department to accomplish it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[First indorsement.]

OCTOBER 22, 1864.

To Commissary-General, for special attention. Confer with me.

J. A. S.,
Secretary.

[Second indorsement.]

It has been provided for as well as possible.

Respectfully,

L. B. NORTHROP,
Commissary of Subsistence.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 21, 1864.

Lieutenant-General HARDEE,
Charleston:

According to Signal Bureau, Richmond, this place will be attacked before 25th. Can you help in any way? Any aid acceptable.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, N. C., October 21, 1864.

Flag-Officer PINCKNEY,
Commanding Naval Forces, North Carolina, present:

FLAG-OFFICER: I have received the important information from the Signal Bureau, Richmond, that this place will be attacked between this and the 25th instant. If this be true, and I have reason to think it is, no time is to be lost. A large fleet is undoubtedly assembling at Beaufort. Although the Rips battery is incomplete, we are pressing it as fast as possible, and as we have already two powerful guns there, it will be well to prepare the naval garrison at once. I have telegraphed the Secretary of the Navy, requesting him to order the expedition on duty for guarding the mouth of the river, at least till they go, if they go at all. The tide will not suit them before the 28th. It is not likely that they will be able to go at all then. In the meantime, their presumed co-operation is of very great importance to us.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *October 21, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Raleigh:

No time is to be lost. Either re-enforcements must come at once or Baker's force must be relieved and come here. I wanted to hold him where he is until your troops had passed Goldsborough and enemy's attack developed, when he would follow.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *October 21, 1864.*

General HÉBERT,
Smithville, N. C.:

Did you get my dispatch last night? Reports from Kinston state sixty vessels at Beaufort; more coming. Hope there are no transports.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *October 22, 1864.*

The PRESIDENT:

SIR: I have the honor to return herewith Governor Vance's letter of the 14th instant, to which you called my attention.* His Excellency protests and remonstrates against the departure of the steam sloops Tallahassee and Chickamauga from Wilmington, and hopes that they may be retained in the Cape Fear to assist in its defense. He does not say or intimate that they could do any good by remaining in port, but proceeds to show that they may do a great deal of harm by going to sea and assailing the enemy. I regret to say that I am constrained to dissent, as well from his statements as his conclusions. This communication, in language nearly indentical, repeats some of the errors of the statement heretofore presented by General Whiting upon the same subject. Governor Vance knows that the Tallahassee is not a "privateer," though she is sometimes styled "privateer" and sometimes "pirate" by the enemy, as they call our partisan rangers "robbers" and "assassins" and our people "rebels." It would be an easy task, as the list of disasters off Wilmington is before me, to correct the error as to the number of vessels lost since the cruise of the Tallahassee; but it would be as difficult to imagine a satisfactory reason for the assertion that "ten or twelve valuable steamers have already been lost in consequence of that cruise," as it is to perceive the justice or propriety of the comparison between the relative merits of the service of this vessel and that of the Advance. It would seem from this comparison that the character of the cruise is as little understood as that of the vessel. Though the Tallahassee captured thirty-one vessels her service is not measured by nor limited to the value of these ships and cargoes, and the number of prisoners; but it must be estimated in connection with other results; the consequent insecurity of the United States coastwise commerce, the detention and delay of vessels in port, and the augmentation of the rates of marine insurance, by which millions were added to the expenses of commerce and navigation, and the compulsory

* See p. 1148.

withdrawal of a portion of the blockading force from Wilmington, in the pursuit of her. A cruise by the Chickamauga and Tallahassee against Northern coasts and commerce would at once withdraw a fleet of fast steamers from the blockading force off Wilmington in pursuit of them, and this result alone would render such a cruise expedient.

With great respect, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

S. R. MALLORY,
Secretary of the Navy.

[Memorandum.]

AIDE-DE-CAMP:

Please read these letters and prepare an answer to Governor Vance, stating case, but dealing in terms of cautious reserve.

J. D.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 251. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, October 22, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

VIII. First Lieut. C. Y. Steptoe, adjutant Forty-fourth Virginia Infantry, will report to Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell, commanding, &c., for temporary assignment to duty with Lieutenant-Colonel Shipp, commanding corps of cadets, at Camp Lee, near this city.

IX. The Quartermaster-General will designate an officer of his department who shall be charged with the purchase of all currency of the United States which may be needed for the purpose of the Government. In making purchases of currency said officer shall conform to the rate of exchange which shall be established from time to time by the Quartermaster-General. The currency thus purchased shall be issued only on the order of the Quartermaster-General, which shall prescribe the terms on which it is to be issued. It being expedient that there shall be but one purchaser of this currency, the wants of the other departments of the Government will, as far as practicable, be supplied under the foregoing regulations.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *October 22, 1864.*

Lieut. Gen. A. P. HILL, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: The new line to Hatcher's Run will be ready for occupation to-morrow, and as it will be important to hold this position I shall make some changes in my dispositions. I have ordered all of my dismounted men, except about eighty, to be placed on this line, but their number will not exceed 600 or 700. This is the only force that I can keep permanently in the trenches, but the regiment which is on picket in front has orders to fall back to the works, if pressed. General Dearing is also ordered to put his whole brigade there, if the enemy advances. This will put a force of from 1,600 to 1,800 men on this line. Butler will hold the Rowanty Creek to a point below the Vaughan road, from Armstrong's Mill, and General Lee will picket the creek to the Halifax road, his division being held ready to move to any point. All my dismounted men will be withdrawn below the Vaughan road. I

propose to put these men in the trenches, and to hold the line from the creek to the ravine in Cousins' field, about one mile. I hope that you may be able to keep some troops on the line so as to unite with me at this point. I will use every effort to hold one mile of the line, but I do not see how I can possibly hold more. Of course, I will throw my whole available force on the line, if the Yankee cavalry does not need my attention. I cannot promise to keep more than 700 men constantly on the line, but these shall be promptly re-enforced. These men can occupy any position you think most advisable. I weaken all my lower posts to give you them.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } WILMINGTON, N. C.,
No. 1. } *October 22, 1864.*

I. Under the instructions of the President I assume the immediate command over the troops and defenses of Wilmington and its approaches.

II. Major-General Whiting will continue as second in command, to exercise all of his former functions of administration and detail.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

WILMINGTON, *October 22, 1864.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS, *President:*

Assumed command this morning. There is no information beyond what you have already. If the apprehended attack is made here a few veteran troops will be necessary, and I should be authorized to assemble all the means within the State and to call on General Hardee for any assistance he can render me. Fever has not been epidemic and seems to have disappeared.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

(Copy sent to General Lee by the direction of the President.)

WILMINGTON, *October 22, 1864.*

JEFFERSON DAVIS, *President:*

The naval expedition should not sail until the question of the attack here is decided. Its presence in the harbor may become of vital importance; its operations at sea can be but secondary at best.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

(Copy sent Secretary of the Navy.)

HEADQUARTERS POST OF RICHMOND,
October 23, 1864.

Major CHESTNEY, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

MAJOR: The guard furnished from the Nineteenth Virginia Militia proves to be unfit for the duty of guarding prisoners. They exhibit a want of discipline and an insubordination which demonstrates that they cannot be safely depended on for the security of the prisoners. The crime of desertion to the enemy and the lesser crimes of abandon-

ment of guard posts and trafficking with prisoners have so often been passed over by their officers without punishment, that the men seem to feel that they may violate all orders with impunity. Two men, Langruth by name, have been released without punishment for the crime of a second desertion, though they were arrested in the attempt to get to a gun-boat of the enemy. The remedy is not within my control. These men are liable only to a trial by a court composed of militia officers. Since the present guard has been posted at the Libby Prison, seventy of them have deserted their posts in one day, leaving their guns in reach of the prisoners and endangering the security of the city. Eighteen hundred prisoners have been received in the last twenty-four hours, and an additional guard is absolutely necessary. While I regret extremely to make any request which will weaken your force at the front, I feel it my duty to request that the Nineteenth Virginia Militia be placed on some other duty than that of guard in the city. The invalid corps on Belle Isle is effectually broken up by the recent order which directs none to be assigned but those soldiers permanently disabled. If those now on duty at Belle Isle be allowed to remain an additional guard of 250 men will enable me to guard the prisoners. I respectfully call the attention of the lieutenant-general commanding to a communication addressed through him to the Adjutant and Inspector General, which gives in detail the difficulties in respect to the guard under which I have labored since appointed to the command of this post. Action on that communication, which I respectfully urge, may remedy the evils complained of.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. M. GARDNER,
Brigadier-General.

P. S.—The guard called for should be furnished immediately.

W. M. GARDNER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding Post.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
Chaffin's, October 23, 1864.

Brig. Gen. W. M. GARDNER, *Commanding Post of Richmond:*

GENERAL: In reply to your communication of this date, asking for additional guard in the city, the lieutenant-general commanding directs me to say that he cannot weaken his force here in front of the enemy without first consulting with General Lee, and that in the meantime you will have to get men from Camp Lee.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. W. PEGRAM,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Colonel Evans has 298 privates for duty. Captain Potts has on Belle Isle 110 invalids. Lieutenant Bates has at Confederate [Barracks] sixty invalids. The invalids are for the most part not fit for guard duty. The President's guard are not used for any duty but at his mansion.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 24, 1864.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: There have been no operations of my command lately which required a report, and I have been engaged in assisting the

infantry in completing a new line of works, which extends to Hatcher's Run. This work is now finished, and the disposition of my troops is as follows: Seven hundred men are in the trenches, their right resting on the creek about one mile and a half above Armstrong's Mill; Butler occupies the line from the latter point to Monk's Neck bridge, and Lee extends to the Halifax road. I have erected five dams in the creek, covering them with works on the south bank. These works and the dams will render this line very secure. Dearing is at Burgess' Mill, and he has orders, in case the enemy advances, to place his whole command at once in the trenches on the right of the infantry. To-day General Hill rode over the lines with me, and I proposed to him that he should hold them to the creek with his infantry and artillery. If he can do this—and he says that he can, if he can get 1,000 or 1,500 more men—I propose to place all my dismounted men (about 800) on the south bank of the creek, holding that line. The cavalry could then be concentrated in supporting distance, and if the enemy attack I can throw a force of from 400 to 4,000 men on his flank by crossing at one of my dams, keeping at the same time sufficient mounted troops to check any advance of the Yankee cavalry. If you can give General Hill men enough to relieve mine now in the trenches, so as to enable me to carry out the plan suggested, I think that you need feel no uneasiness as to an attack on my right. I have carefully examined all the ground, and I feel sanguine of the success of such a movement as I have indicated. My command is growing stronger every day, and it is in good condition for a fight. Butler received 275 horses to-day and Lee can mount 2,500 men. If my command can be concentrated I shall be able to take upward of 5,000 men into action. We are using every effort not only to strengthen our lines, but to augment our numbers. In this connection, I beg to call your attention to the fact that many of the recruits now reporting for duty desire to join the cavalry, many of them having been in that service and now owning good horses. But these men have been assigned to the infantry. If the cavalry is not allowed to receive recruits now I fear there will be no other hope for its increase. The Tenth and Thirteenth Virginia Regiments are small, and the officers assure me that they could be filled up if the new men were allowed to choose their arm of the service. The Ninth Virginia is already full, though many desire to join it still. As many men will be retired from disability from this regiment soon, I respectfully recommend that authority may be granted to Colonel Beale to receive additional recruits, so as to fill his regiment to the maximum. An order to Colonel Shields to send to me all the men who wish to join the cavalry, and who can mount themselves at once, would add greatly to our strength. This is so important a matter that I hope you will take prompt action on it.

I am, general, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *October 25, 1864.*

Governor Z. B. VANCE,
Raleigh, N. C.:

SIR: Your letter of the 14th instant entering your "most respectful and earnest remonstrance against the sailing of the two privateers from the port of Wilmington" has been received. The two vessels referred to are the steam sloops Tallahassee and Chickamauga, regularly commissioned and officered vessels of the provisional navy of the Con-

federate States and not privateers. From the official list before me I find but four, instead of "ten or twelve," disasters off the port of Wilmington from the sailing of the Tallahassee to the date of your letter, and the cause of the loss of some of them is known to be independent of the cruise of this ship. Our cruisers, though few in number, have almost swept the enemy's foreign commerce from the sea. Though the Tallahassee captured thirty-one vessels her service is not measured by, nor limited to, the value of these ships and cargoes and the number of her prisoners, but it must be estimated in connection with other results: the consequent insecurity of the United States coastwise commerce, the detention and delay of vessels in port, and the augmentation of the rate of marine insurance, by which millions were added to the expense of commerce and navigation, and the compulsory withdrawal of a portion of the blockading force from Wilmington in pursuit of her. A cruise by the Chickamauga and Tallahassee against Northern coasts and commerce would at once withdraw a fleet of fast steamers from the blockading force off Wilmington in pursuit of them, and this result alone would render such a cruise expedient. It is the presence of these vessels in port which increases the rigor of the blockade. In case of an attack upon Wilmington they could avail nothing against the land attack and very little against the attack by vessels of war. Before sailing, however, General Bragg has been directed to confer fully with the naval commander upon this subject, and they, no doubt, will use their discretion as may best subserve the public interest.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, October 25, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:

SIR: General D. H. Hill, an officer whose abilities in the field are highly esteemed in North Carolina, is now at home without employment. I would be greatly pleased if he could be put in command of the eastern portion of the Department of North Carolina, where there are a few regular troops and many militia now assembling. Should it not be your pleasure to give him this or some other command, I propose giving him such employment myself as I can find for him to do. Like a good and a gallant soldier, he expresses to me his great desire to serve anywhere or how his country.

Very respectfully,

Z. B. VANCE.

[First indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 2, 1864.

General R. E. Lee, for remarks advisory.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
November 8, 1864.

General Hill is brave, watchful, and patriotic. He had command in North Carolina, but for some cause was relieved. I think while General Bragg is at Wilmington he had better be in command of that whole district, and have so recommended to the Secretary of War. I fear there may be a want of harmony between the two.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Third indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 11, 1864.

Adjutant-General, for remarks in connection with papers heretofore referred.

J. D.

[Fourth indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 18, 1864.

Respectfully returned to the President, with correspondence between this office and General Hill on the subject of his assignment to the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, which will better explain all the facts and circumstances of that assignment, and the manner it was received and treated by General Hill, than I could hope to give by an indorsement. The papers are numbered in pencil marks from 1 to 9, and should be read in that order. I also inclose the last monthly report of General Hill, in which he states that he is awaiting at Davidson College orders for assignment to duty, and which he is prepared to obey promptly. I fully concur with General Lee in his apprehension (from what has already occurred) that there may be a want of harmony between General Bragg and General Hill if the latter should be ordered to duty in North Carolina while the former is in command of that department.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

DECEMBER 31, 1864.

A. D. C., for reply to Governor Vance, stating the assignment which has been made of him to duty in South Carolina.

J. D.

[Sixth indorsement.]

JANUARY 10, 1865.

Respectfully returned to the files of the Adjutant-General's Office.

BURTON N. HARRISON,
Private Secretary.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 9, 1864.*

General S. COOPER:

Should any objection on account of rank arise in sending General Hill here, as desired in telegram this morning, Major-General McLaws would be equally acceptable.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[First indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
February 14, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to His Excellency the President, &c., for his information.

[Second indorsement.]

General COOPER:

It seems to me better to assign General Hill as a major-general, and explain to him that thus only could we employ him at this time and at that place. This is subject to other views if it should be proposed to send General Beauregard to Mobile.

J. D.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

RICHMOND, VA., *February 16, 1864.*

General D. H. HILL,
Davidson College, Mecklenburg, N. C.:

GENERAL: After due consideration of the terms and intent of the law authorizing the appointment of lieutenant-generals it has been concluded that officers of that rank are only available for the command of army corps. The President, desiring that the public should not hereafter lose the service of an officer whose zeal and gallantry have been so conspicuous as your own, has deemed it better not to ask for your confirmation in the rank of lieutenant-general, in order to leave you in that to which you have been already confirmed, and has directed me to offer to you service as a major-general in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. You will, therefore, with as little delay as practicable, repair to Charleston and report to General Beauregard, commanding that department.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Inclosure No. 3.]

RICHMOND, VA., *February 16, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Commanding, Charleston, S. C.:

General D. H. Hill, now at Davidson College, Mecklenburg, N. C., has been ordered to report to you with his former rank and date of major-general.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Inclosure No. 4.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., February 29, 1864.

General D. H. HILL, Provisional Army, C. S.,
Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have received your answer of the 23d instant to my letter to you of the 16th of the same month.

As my letter was written under the instructions of the President, it became necessary that I should lay before him your reply, which I have accordingly done.

You state in that reply that—

> Unless the assignment to duty be accompanied by an unequivocal expression of undiminished confidence in my (your) capacity, gallantry, and fidelity, I (you) can accept no position that may be tendered.

I quote the words in your letter. In my reply to you the following sentence occurs, viz:

> The President, desiring that the public should not hereafter lose the services of an officer whose zeal and gallantry have been so conspicuous as your own, has deemed it better not to ask for your confirmation in the rank of lieutenant-general, in order to leave you in that to which you have been already confirmed, and has directed me to offer to you service as a major-general in the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

In considering the above expressions in my letter and comparing them with the terms used in the above quotation from your letter in reply, the President can see no necessity for yielding to your wishes in respect to the latter, and therefore declines to accede to your demand. He would scarcely have offered you the command in question if he did not feel confidence in your capacity, gallantry, and fidelity, and does not conceive it is necessary or proper to announce the same in orders.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Inclosure No. 5.]

CHARLESTON, S. C., *March 4, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Your letter of the 29th of February came by last evening's mail. An expression of undiminished confidence was promised me. Relying upon the sacredness of that promise, I came here resolved to disregard all that was faithful to my feelings as a soldier, and try as a patriot to perform my duty in the future as faithfully as in the past. My visit to this place has but confirmed my previous impression that without the fulfillment of the pledge given me no good can result from accepting the position tendered. Influenced, then, by regard for the public interest, I am constrained to adhere to the determination expressed in my letter of the 23d of February.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[Inclosure No. 6.]

CHARLESTON, S. C., *March 17, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

As my letter of the 4th instant may have miscarried, I repeat its substance. I stated that, as I had come here upon a distinct and unequivocal promise that an expression of undiminished confidence should be given me, I was constrained to adhere to my determination to decline the position tendered, until the pledge was complied with. I have not yet gone on duty.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[Inclosure No. 7.]

RICHMOND, VA., *March 26, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: The Adjutant and Inspector General directs that I inclose you a copy of his letter bearing date on the 29th of February last, and to say that he has never received letters from you bearing date the 4th and 17th instant.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

JNO. W. RIELY,
Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Inclosure No. 8.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., April 4, 1864.

Maj. Gen. D. H. HILL,
Charleston, S. C.:

GENERAL: I have received, by the hands of your aide-de-camp, your letter of the 29th ultimo* in which you claim that an expression ot "undiminished confidence" should be conveyed in the order assigning you to duty in the department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and that a promise to that extent was given to you. It would seem from the letter of your brother, Mr. W. R. Hill, to me and from his statement which accompanies your letter, that I had made that promise. I must state in reply that your brother, in believing I had made the promise, certainly misunderstood my remark to him. I expressed appreciation of your military character and patriotism and a disposition to gratify, as far as I could, the pride of an officer who considers himself placed in a false position, and added that if you would prepare the order of assignment in the terms in which you desired it to be announced it would receive attention—that is, it would be laid before the President. This is the substance of what I said in the conversation with your brother. In my letter to you of 16th of January ordering you to report to General Beauregard I informed you expressly that it was written by direction of the President. As the order was given by the President, not by the Secretary of War, as is usually the case, my subsequent order enlarging or varying the terms of your assignment should properly have been submitted to him. He alone could direct in what language it should be expressed. Having therefore no discretion in the matter, I had no power to make such a promise as is attributed to me, and, indeed, with the knowledge I possessed of the views of the President, I would not have assumed the responsibility of making it. To express in orders "undiminished confidence" in an officer would be unprecedented in military history. You had been, in my letter of 16th of January, accorded "zeal and gallantry;" your assignment to duty was an acknowledgment of your fidelity; your capacity was to be determined by history in reviewing and considering your military services. For these reasons I could not have made the declaration ascribed to me by your brother, and regret exceedingly that he should have misunderstood me. As an officer of experience and long service in the army, well acquainted with the

* NOTE ON ORIGINAL.—This letter of General Hill of 29th of March merely inclosed copies of his letter to Adjutant-General of 4th and 17th of March. They are among these papers, numbered 5 and 6.

responsibilities and the rules governing officers of different grades, I feel satisfied you could not expect the Adjutant and Inspector General in his own right to decide a question which belongs exclusively to the Executive. It is impossible to recollect the details of conversation which occur daily, I may say hourly, with persons who seek interviews with me in my office. As your brother represents, I am prepared to admit your zeal, energy, and faithfulness to the cause, but must be permitted to deny that he had any authority from me to state I had given the promise, the fulfillment of which you have claimed as a condition precedent to the acceptance of your positive assignment. The promise, let me repeat, could only be given (as from your knowledge of the usage of the service you must know) by the President.

Very respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Inclosure No. 9.]

CHARLESTON, S. C., *April 9, 1861.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Your letter of the 4th instant has just been received. You are perfectly right in your view that an expression of undiminished confidence could only be given by the direction and sanction of His Excellency the President. That is the quarter from which it is expected, and from which, with all deference, I suggest it is due. My brother, Col. W. R. Hill, stated both to His Excellency and to yourself the only condition upon which I would accept a tendered service, namely, that an expression of undiminished confidence in my capacity, gallantry, and fidelity should accompany the order assigning me to command. If it was not the intention to comply with the condition, a frank and an unequivocal refusal was imperatively demanded. All candid men will recognize in the assignment to duty an acceptance of the terms proposed. But the matter does not rest merely upon this tacit but unmistakable agreement. When Colonel Hill made known to His Excellency the President, that an expression of undiminished confidence was an essential condition to my acceptance of command, he replied that he saw no objection to granting it, and that he would see the Adjutant-General in reference to it. Colonel Hill saw you next day after an interview with His Excellency upon this subject. The unavoidable conclusion was that you spoke with the Executive sanction when you said—

> Tell General Hill that anything which will soothe his pride as a soldier shall be granted him. Tell him to write, or even telegraph, the order which he wishes.

There can be no doubt that the original intention was to comply with my terms. What adverse influence changed that purpose can only be the subject of conjecture. I telegraphed from Charlotte, N. C., on the 23d of February, that I would not assume command here until the clear record promised me was granted. If the change of intention took place before that time it is unfortunate that I was not telegraphed to not to go to Charleston. It would doubtless be useless in me to discuss with you the propriety of "the condition precedent to acceptance of a position." You may be correct in your statement "that to express in orders undiminished confidence in an officer would be unprecedented in military history." But it may be equally unprecedented in history that an officer who had fought his way up to the highest rank in the Provis-

ional Army should be relieved from command after a battle, banished for months from the field, and reduced in his rank upon vague allegations made by another officer, the investigation of which has been constantly refused, either because the commander-in-chief regards them as frivolous or because the officer making them shrinks from subjecting them to the trying ordeal of a court.

Permit me to return my hearty acknowledgments for the flattering expressions in your letter and to assure you that I am deeply grateful for your uniform kindness and courtesy.

Having replied to your letter of the 4th instant, it is my duty to state that I have not yet assumed command under General Beauregard. I have received but one communication from you in reference to duty at Charleston. This is your letter of the 16th of February. I have construed it into tender of service and not a peremptory order of assignment to duty. My reasons are twofold: First, my commission as lieutenant-general did not expire until the adjournment of Congress, on the 18th of February, and an order to me to serve as a major-general could not be legally issued till I was one *de facto*. You yourself felt this embarrassment, as your letter is not addressed to me either as major-general or lieutenant-general. Second, you use in the letter of the 16th of February the following language: "The President has directed me to *offer* you service as a major-general," &c. Under the above construction of your letter, I have twice by telegram and three times by letter, declined the position tendered until the promise given me of an expression of undiminished confidence was complied with. My objection to entering on duty without this expression has been repeatedly stated as arising from a conviction that the interest of the service would be prejudiced by my assuming command over troops whose confidence in me had been impaired by the severe treatment I have received. But while regard for the good of my country and my own sense of propriety have constrained me to decline a proffered command, I have always held myself ready to obey any order of my superiors. If the Department then takes the responsibility under all the circumstances of the case of a peremptory assignment to duty, I shall, of course, yield a prompt compliance.

As I have been kept now for six weeks in a painful and embarrassing state of suspense, I trust that you may be able to get from His Excellency the President an early decision in the matter, without interfering with his attention to more important affairs. Failing to receive the order, I will consider myself at liberty to return to my home.

With renewed assurances of my high regard, I remain, your obedient servant,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

APRIL 20, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the President.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

APRIL 23, 1864.

If General Hill does not willingly accept the offer of command, it is not deemed well for the service to force him to such high and responsible duty as that proposed.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

[Inclosure No. 10.]

CHARLESTON, *April 16, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Owing to reduction of forces, I will leave this department with great concern, which would be much diminished if General Hill were ordered to relieve me, for since his arrival here he has been making himself acquainted with the forces and localities. My chief of staff is still quite sick and cannot be at present of much assistance to General Jones. I am confident a positive order from the War Department would be obeyed with alacrity by General Hill.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

[Inclosure No. 11.]

CHARLESTON, *April 20, 1864.*

General S. COOPER:

In accordance with my letter of the 9th instant, I will leave here on Monday, the 25th, unless counter orders should reach me before that time.

With great respect,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

[Inclosure No. 12.]

DAVIDSON COLLEGE, N. C.,
November 1, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

I have the honor to renew my monthly statement that I am awaiting orders at this place and prepared to obey promptly.

Very respectfully,

D. H. HILL,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 254. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, October 25, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

XXII. Paragraph XXIII, Special Orders, No. 239, current series, assigning Lieut. Col. R. C. Smith to the command of the camp of the Maryland Line, near this city, is hereby revoked, and Lieutenant-Colonel Smith will report to Brig. Gen. W. M. Gardner, commanding, &c., Richmond, Va., for assignment to the command of the military prison at Danville, Va.

* * * * * * *

XXIX. The second and third paragraphs of Special Orders, No. 161, current series, from this office, are amended so as to transfer Company B, Twentieth Battalion Georgia Cavalry, to the Jeff. Davis Legion, in the place of Company D, Twentieth Battalion Georgia Cavalry, which is hereby transferred to the Eighth Georgia Cavalry (Colonel Griffin).

XXX. The ninth and eleventh paragraphs of Special Orders, No. 161, current series, from this office, are amended so as to transfer the

Seventh Georgia Cavalry to Gary's brigade, and the Phillips Legion, Georgia cavalry, to Young's brigade. The commands will report accordingly promptly.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JOHN W. RIELY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] WILMINGTON, *October 25, 1864.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President, Richmond, Va.:

Mr. PRESIDENT: Presuming you desire to know the condition of affairs here as soon as possible, I take the liberty of inclosing you a copy of report to General Lee of this date. This only deals in generalities. I found General Whiting much worried and disconcerted, and, believing that his abilities and experience could be made valuable, deem it prudent to so shape my order assuming command as to wound his pride as little as possible, at the same time that I took the entire control. Accordingly, he is left "as second in command, in discharge of his former functions of administration and detail." It seemed to be a relief and I hope and believe our service will be pleasant and harmonious. His appearance does not indicate recent dissipation. He is very industrious and zealous, and deeply interested in the success of his labors here. Attaches too much importance, probably, to reports and rumors not well grounded, and is too apt to allow his excitement to lead to indiscreet advice to the people. In this way he has, to some extent, lost their confidence. For instance, the day of my arrival the press advised the removal of the people. This was entirely unnecessary and therefore imprudent, as we can remove the whole population easily after the enemy shall have made his appearance, should it be deemed necessary. With such means as can be drawn from the resources of my command we shall make the best defense possible, should this be the point assailed. Several matters have attracted my attention which will be presented to you when I have more time, but there is one which is pressing now. The State has detailed some 200 or 300 able-bodied conscripts engaged in making salt at the Sound, near here, a work as easily done by negroes. These men should all be in General Lee's army, and it is specially important they should be away from here. They are all from a disloyal part of the State, and are very strongly suspected of keeping up intercourse with the enemy. No time will be more propitious than the present for removing them under recent orders. The commandant of conscripts, I learn, declines to act, and has referred the matter to the War Department.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[Inclosure.]

HEADQUARTERS THIRD MILITARY DISTRICT,
DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VIRGINIA,
Wilmington, N. C., October 25, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: After a hasty inspection of all the defensive works for the protection of this harbor, it gives me pleasure to report favorably of

their strength and condition. They are now prepared to oppose a powerful resistance to any naval attack, and will hold any considerable land force in check for a considerable time, if the garrisons will do their duty. But few of the works are finished, however, and much additional strength will be given when the plans are completed. They are judiciously located and well constructed; to the armaments, already heavy, daily additions are being made, and the commanders appear intelligent and zealous. As yet I have not been able to witness the proficiency of the officers and men in drill and target practice, but the reports of both are favorable. With good conduct on the part of the troops, we should expect a successful defense against any naval attack which can be made. Against a land expedition, intended to close the harbor, the means of defense available are very limited indeed, and necessarily so scattered as to justify nothing more than a mere nominal resistance. These means are slowly increasing by the addition of reserves. Assuming that the primary object of the enemy will be to close the port, as at Mobile, we may infer what his operations will probably be:

First. He may attempt with a formidable fleet of light-draught steamers to pass the forts at the mouth of the river and possess himself of the harbor.

Second. To threaten our forts with the fleet and make a descent with a land force to the west of Fort Caswell, and then move to some point on the river above.

Third. To make a lodgment on Smith's Island at the mouth of the river, with a land force and navy co-operating. Possessing himself of the island, both entrances of the harbor will be pretty effectually closed.

Fourth. To make a descent with a land force on the peninsula above Fort Fisher, intrench across it, and thus control the river.

The first I consider the least practicable and therefore the least probable. The third and fourth are the most simple and the most dangerous operations to us. To frustrate such an attempt a movable force of good troops will be necessary. If the lodgment is once made, and the force strongly intrenched, the harbor is lost, and can only be recovered by means much greater than would suffice to hold it. Whether the importance of the harbor is such as to justify the withdrawal of means from other points, also endangered, or whether our information leads to the conclusion that this point is the one to be assailed, your own judgment can best decide.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., October 25, 1864.

General B. BRAGG,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Scouts believed to be reliable report twenty-five large vessels of war, including several monitors, to have been a day or two since at Fortress Monroe, declared in conversation of officers to be intended for attack on Wilmington, and expected to sail to-day. No troops reported with them.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

(Copy to Generals Holmes and Whiting.)

WILMINGTON, *October 25, 1864.*

President DAVIS:

The following secret information has been received—orders from the enemy's headquarters: Wilmington to be attacked within sixty days from September 10. Will not attack Fort Fisher. Will land a large force at Masonborough; another below Caswell. Cavalry from Morehead City will cut railroad at Magnolia—this to be done at night. Our own troops to spike heavy guns, cut telegraph wires, and pilot the enemy to the city. State salt-works in constant communication with the enemy; ought to be broken up at once. Two large monitors with eighty others, large and small, to co-operate. Information plausible; hardly believe it about our troops; General Bragg directs me to communicate it.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

(Copy to General Lee.)

OCTOBER 25, 1864.

General BAKER,
Goldsborough:

Information from War Department that fleet was expected to sail to-day from Norfolk. You must look out for Kenansville—no troops there at all. Secret information points to Magnolia as the place where railroad is to be cut. Copy of this will be furnished. Anything yet from our friend at Norfolk?

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., October 26, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: I have received your letter urging the importance of supplying the garrisons in the forts below Wilmington with thirty days' provisions, in case the enemy should succeed in cutting them off from the city. In reply, I have the honor to say that the subject had engaged the attention of the Department, and the need had been, in a large measure, supplied previous to the receipt of your letter, and a full supply of provisions has now been placed in the forts for the time specified by you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 26, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: I have the honor to inclose copies of a letter received from Capt. J. K. Mitchell, flag officer of the James River squadron, and of my reply with reference to the service to be performed by the fleet. Your attention is respectfully invited to my views of the part to be taken by the

navy in the defense of Richmond as expressed in my letter, with the hope that if approved by you you will so represent the case to the honorable Secretary of the Navy, should the subject become one of conference between the two Departments. I would also respectfully suggest that the dangers apprehended by Captain Mitchell might be rendered of less probable occurrence if it be in the power of the navy to increase the number of men and small boats to picket the river in rear of the iron-clads when they go down for guard duty at night.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

FLAG-SHIP VIRGINIA, JAMES RIVER SQUADRON,
October 23, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Comdg. Army of North. Virginia, Hdqrs. near Chaffin's Farm:

GENERAL: Further reflection since my conversation with you last evening on the exposure of squadron to destruction from the torpedoes of the enemy, satisfied me that it demands the most serious consideration if, as I presume is the case, the naval forces on the James River are held to be important to the ulterior as well as the present protection of Richmond. With the aid of five wooden gun-boats the iron-clads have hitherto managed but imperfectly to picket the river so as to make it somewhat hazardous to the enemy to attempt the placing of torpedoes, yet I always felt assured that he had opportunities, and would, when ready, avail himself of them for that purpose, especially with the information he derived from our deserters, if not from his own observations, of our means and the disposition of our pickets, &c., showing the numerous points that were unguarded in an extent of more than two miles. The enemy's batteries, which opened yesterday and caused the retirement of our gun-boats, will hereafter lessen materially their usefulness for the particular picket service, or prevent its being effective. Besides, at this time there is but one efficient gun-boat available, two being absent for repairs to their gun carriages, and two insufficiently manned to work their guns, one of which is occasionally required for detached mail and passage service for the accommodation of army and navy. I went down last night to Bishop's Bluff with the iron-clads Virginia and Richmond, and my conviction has become thoroughly fixed that now more than ever the enemy may, any night or foggy day, by means of boats transported overland, place torpedoes in any part of the river in front of his intrenchments, except at the points actually occupied by our vessels, even if the southern bank of the river were picketed, for we claim to have the ability and are prepared or preparing to place torpedoes in the face of the enemy's pickets on the river. The attempts hitherto to place them in the rear of the enemy below Dutch Gap have failed, no doubt, for the want of adequate protection from land forces, a protection which the enemy can now readily give to his own torpedo parties anywhere below Chaffin's Bluff, and the temptation to him must be very great to intercept by these means the return of our iron-clads to our anchorage near Chaffin's after having performed a tour of night guard at Bishop's Bluff. If, then, the danger to the iron-clads be conceded, the question arises, if they are held to be important to the more immediate defense of Richmond now and prospectively, does the service they do, and may render, by moving down the

river and remaining in the vicinity of Bishop's at night, justify the hazard they thus incur of destruction from torpedoes? Your views and wishes, general, on this question, I should be glad to have, in order that I may communicate them to the Navy Department with my own. The security of Richmond is one of such great moment that I regard it my duty to refer everything involving it, either for counsel or instruction, to those upon whom the weighty responsibility chiefly rests. The personal danger to those on board of an iron-clad that might be sunk by a torpedo is regarded as slight, for the vessel in such a narrow channel would have way enough to reach a shoal or one of the river-banks, and thus give the crew time to escape to the shore. The hazard, therefore, to life is deemed trifling compared with the loss of the vessel itself.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. K. MITCHELL,
Flag Officer, Commanding James River Squadron.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHEN VIRGINIA,
October 24, 1864.

Capt. J. K. MITCHELL,
Flag Officer, Commanding James River Squadron:

CAPTAIN: Your letter of the 23d instant is received, and in compliance with your request I will give you my views as to the service I deem important to be rendered by the navy in the present posture of affairs. In my opinion the enemy is already as near Richmond as he can be allowed to come with safety, and it is certain that the defense of the city would be easier did our lines extend lower down the river, and becomes more difficult the farther we are compelled to retire. If the enemy succeeds in throwing a force to the south bank in rear of General Pickett's lines, it will necessitate not only the withdrawal of General P.'s forces, but also the abandonment of Petersburg and its railroad connections, throwing the whole army back to the defenses of Richmond. I should regard this as a great disaster and as seriously endangering the safety of the city. We should not only lose a large section of country, from which our position around Petersburg enables us to draw supplies, but the enemy would be brought nearer to the only remaining line of railway communication between Richmond and the south, upon which the whole army, as well as the population of the city would have to depend mainly for support. It would make the tenure of the city depend upon our ability to hold this long line of communication against the largely superior forces of the enemy, and I think would greatly diminish our prospects of successful defense. It is, therefore, in my judgment, a matter of the first moment to prevent such a movement on the part of the enemy, and I do not know what emergency can arise in the future defense of the city, which will more require all the efforts of the army and navy than that which now exists. I fully appreciate the importance of preserving our fleet, and deprecate any unnecessary exposure of it. But you will perceive the magnitude of the service which it is thought you can render, and determine whether it is sufficient to justify the risk. It is true that the enemy might place torpedoes in your rear while the vessels are on guard down the river at night, but if you retire, it is

much easier for him to place them in the river below you, so as to prevent your going down altogether, no matter how great the necessity for your presence below might become. It is, therefore, very desirable to guard the river as effectually as we can, and I think it can be done so as greatly to diminish the chance of the enemy laying torpedoes, if our iron-clads can go down as far as Bishop's every night and picket in their rear with small boats and some of the light gun-boats. Our pickets on the north bank extend about half a mile below the lowest battery, and will be able to afford some assistance, as will also those on the south bank. A system of signals should be agreed upon between them and the fleet, to give timely notice of any attempt of the enemy to approach the river or launch boats. We have not sufficient force to picket the banks more effectually. Our batteries on the south side would also tend to deter the enemy from making the attempt you apprehend, and could afford assistance to the fleet. You, of course, can best judge of your ability to render the service desired. I can only express my views of its importance, and I trust that if the Department can increase your force of men, or in any other way contribute to render you able to perform this important duty it will be done. As I said before, I can foresee no state of circumstances in which the fleet can render more important aid than in the defense of Richmond than at present by guarding the river below Chaffin's Bluff.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 26, 1864.

Major-General HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry Corps:

GENERAL: Your letter of the 24th is received. I am much pleased to hear of the improvement and increase of your command and of your confidence in the strength of your position. It would afford me great gratification if I could give General Hill the additional infantry to enable him to relieve your troops as you propose, as I can see that much benefit would result from it. But the difficulty is to get the men. I have written to him to say that the only source we have to depend upon is the conscription now going on. I hope he will be considerably strengthened by this means, and I have requested him to co-operate in your proposition to the extent of his ability. I have also asked General Kemper to allow recruits to go to the Tenth and Thirteenth Regiments [Virginia Cavalry] to the extent allowed by the orders of the Department on that subject. Those orders only permit companies having less than the minimum number—sixty-four—on the rolls to receive recruits up to that number. Such companies of these regiments as are reduced below the minimum by death, discharge, retirement, &c., can therefore now be recruited. You will, therefore, send a competent officer, or two, if you deem it necessary, from each regiment to report to General Kemper to receive and forward recruits. They must carry the rolls of the companies to be recruited with them. I have suggested to General Kemper that to prevent imposition by men pretending that they have horses, in order to get an opportunity to go home, it would be best that they should be sent to their regiments first, and get authority to go for their horses, like other dismounted men. If a better arrangement occurs to you, you can adopt it. You will at once report any man

whom you believe to be incapable of mounting himself, that he may be handed over to the infantry. I hope the accession you will receive from this source may compensate to some extent for General Hill's want of men. The general authority to enlist in the cavalry that you propose cannot be granted, as it is absolutely necessary for us to fill up our infantry regiments.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
October 26, 1864.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD,
Commanding Division:

The lieutenant-general commanding desires that you will so extend your line as to throw a good-sized regiment, say 300 men, immediately on the left of the Charles City road, and in connection with General Gary.

I am, general, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

G. M. SORREL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 27, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the signal message sent me by your order yesterday. I had supposed that General Grant would make some movement simultaneously with any attack on Wilmington, to prevent re-enforcements being sent from here, and in that view I consider it important that in such an event General Hardee should re-enforce General Bragg with all his available troops, or, on the other hand, should Charleston and not Wilmington be the real point of attack General Bragg should aid General Hardee to the extent of his ability. It is very probable that whichever place is attacked a demonstration will be made against the other to detain the troops at either from the real point. The officers in command must judge which is the true movement and act accordingly. I think it would be well that the policy which they are to pursue should be made the subject of an order from the Department, directing the one not attacked to re-enforce the one who is with all the troops he can spare.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Indorsement.]

OCTOBER 28, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

You had better issue such instructions by telegraph as General Lee suggests and likewise write more fully explaining his desires.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 27, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: General Hill reports that the enemy crossed Hatcher's Run this morning at Armstrong's Mill and Monk's Neck bridge; force unknown. General Longstreet reports that the enemy is moving to our left, and that cavalry and infantry have appeared on the Nine-Mile road. There thus appears to be a simultaneous movement on both flanks. Our troops have made corresponding movements.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

(By Charles Marshall, aide-de-camp, for and in the absence of General Lee.)

[OCTOBER 27, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting attacks on the right and left of his lines, &c. (two dispatches), see Part I, p. 853.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., October 27, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

Following telegram received this morning. I send it for your information:

HAMILTON'S CROSSING,
October 27, 1864.

P. V. DANIEL,
President:

Colonel Garnett reports from Milford there were large number of gun-boats or transports in Rappahannock River, eight miles below Port Royal, at 1 o'clock this morning, and they were supposed to have cavalry on board for the purpose of making raid to destroy crops and carry off negroes. They were making their way up river at the time he saw them.

D. S. BEVANS,
Conductor.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 256. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, October 27, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XXXVII. The Tredegar Battalion will report immediately to Lieutenant-Colonel Pemberton, commanding the Artillery Defenses of this city.

XXXVIII. The corps of cadets commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Shipp will report immediately to Lieutenant-Colonel Pemberton, commanding Artillery Defenses of this city.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS LOCAL DEFENSE BRIGADE,
Chaffin's Farm, October 27, 1864.

Maj. T. O. CHESTNEY,
Headquarters Department of Richmond, Va.:

MAJOR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a list of men who have deserted from my command to the enemy since the 4th instant.* You will see by an inspection of the list that most of the men are mechanics, some of them workers in iron, of very great value to our Government. It is the opinion of many of the battalion and company commanders that most of the desertions are due to recent orders of the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office directing that certain classes of men heretofore exempt from military duty in the field, in which are included mechanics and others necessary to the Government, in the several departments, shall be sent to the field. Pains have been taken to inform the men that those necessary to the Government will not be sent to the field, and constant efforts are made to allow no intercourse with the enemy's pickets and to prevent men from deserting the picket-line, in which way most of the desertions occur; but desertions still continue at the rate of two or three every night. The men who desert are for the most part from that class which has no interest in our cause, and who are probably unwilling to undergo the privations to which all sorts and conditions of our people are subjected, and they would probably leave us upon every favorable opportunity. The orders referred to hereinbefore probably help their conclusions, and they now have the opportunity. I have deemed it my duty to put you in possession of these facts, and have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. W. C. LEE,
Brigadier-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
October 31, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the consideration of General Lee.

We cannot spare these men from the front just now, but as soon as Virginia reserves in sufficient numbers arrive they ought to be released and returned to their labor (such as are left), where their services are important.

R. S. EWELL,
Lieutenant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
October 31, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded for the information of the Department.

General Ewell has been informed that as soon as a sufficient force of reserves can be obtained to return these men to their shops.

R. E. LEE,
General.

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* List of forty-five names omitted.

[Third indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
November 7, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

H. L. CLAY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., October 27, 1864—3 p. m.

Lieut. Col. W. H. PALMER, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

COLONEL: As I understand it, your note received by bearer has been complied with. My division, Finegan's and Wright's brigades, and Archer's battalion reach from the river to Battery No. 45. General Anderson had given me orders previously to receiving your note to extend my command to the Weldon railroad and relieve Finegan's and Wright's brigades. I suspend this movement (not yet commenced) upon contents of your note.

Respectfully, &c.,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, N. C., October 27, 1864.

General BRAGG, *Commanding, &c., Wilmington:*

GENERAL: I beg leave to call your attention to the expediency, not to say necessity, of at once moving the conscripts now engaged in the State salt-works from our front lines, and if not placing them where they ought to be, in the ranks, at least putting it out of their power to do harm from their disloyalty. Your attention is respectfully called to numerous letters on the subject of these men. At this time they occupy a very accessible point on Masonborough Sound, which is frequently visited by the enemy. They are known to be hostile to our cause and strongly in favor of Holden and his teachings. They are within reach of two very important lines of telegraphic communication. They are in sufficient force to do very great damage in the approach of an enemy, and will no doubt act as guides, cut wires, and perhaps burn railroad bridges at N. E. [North East].

When the expedition under Foster was expected the department was notified, and he moved his establishment across the Cape Fear. This, too, was before the character of his force was suspected. It is doubly necessary now. As no salt-making can be carried on while the enemy are in force along the coast, and there can be little doubt that an attack is imminent, there can be no impropriety in sending off the salt-makers. I, therefore, earnestly urge that notice be given at once before it is too late. All private salt-works will be notified to-day to suspend operations until further orders, and cause their operatives to withdraw. The State salt-works have a large number of excellent teams. As our transportation is very limited, no doubt the Governor will allow the quartermaster's department to make use of them pending the present emergency. This favor has been heretofore extended

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 257. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, October 28, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

XXII. The two unattached companies commanded, respectively, by Capts. H. P. Allen and E. D. Snead will, when their places are supplied at Salisbury, N. C., proceed to Wilmington and report to General Bragg for temporary duty at that point.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JOHN W. RIELY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[OCTOBER 28, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting engagements on the 27th, see Part I, p. 853.]

RICHMOND, VA., *October 28, 1864.*

General W. J. HARDEE,
Charleston, S. C.:

It is very probable that if Wilmington is seriously attacked, a demonstration will be made against Charleston. In such event the Secretary of War directs that you will re-enforce General Bragg, who is in command at Wilmington, with all the troops you can spare. But if Charleston should be the real point of attack, and only a feint made at Wilmington, General Bragg has been ordered to aid you to the same extent. There should be co-operation between you. I have written by mail explaining these views more fully.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

TORPEDO BUREAU,
Richmond, Va., October 29, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to report that, pursuant to the wishes of the President expressed on 10th instant, I proceeded next day to our lines and had a conference with some of our general officers, and indoctrinated them into the use of the subterra shells. They now gladly avail themselves of this means of defense, so that we have planted 600 in front of our works and sixty more yesterday probably, mostly around Fort Gilmer and near Battery Harrison, and have daily calls for more. The objections to these subterra shells have been met by placing them in lines, with a small red flag, three feet in rear of each, to be removed at night and when threatened with attack, to be restored by daylight, and when necessary to keep our own men off, so that we shall soon be enabled to withdraw our veterans for more active service in the field, supplying their places with inferior troops. I have sent some of these shells, and men adepts in their use, to Colonel Mosby at the request of General R. E. Lee, also torpedoes to Brigadier-General Baker at Goldsborough at request, two officers and men to Wilmington at request of

Major-General Whiting, who telegraphs for torpedoes likewise, which are being sent, and we are about to answer a call from the Navy for subterra shells to guard land approaches at certain places. I am left again without officers, except my aide and assistant adjutant-general. These shells are now appreciated, and I now have more calls for their use than I can possibly fulfill, which shows emphatically the necessity of my having a school of officers here to be instructed and the men required to carry our efforts into effect.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

G. J. RAINS,
Brigadier-General, Superintendent.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 258. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, October 29, 1864.*

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XXV. Brig. Gen. W. S. Walker, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to General L. S. Baker for assignment to duty in command of the post at Weldon, N. C.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JOHN W. RIELY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 29, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The operations of Thursday must have developed the feasibility of a grand attack upon either of the points on my left. In view of the damaging effects of the late operations upon the prospects of the present Yankee administration, and the importance of some decided success before the approaching election, I am apprehensive of a formidable effort to break through my line at an early moment. If I am obliged to stretch out my line as much as I did on Thursday a grand attack must go through it. I suggest, therefore, that all of the negro force we have and all that is at work around Richmond be put at work to build a line from the battery on the Charles City road to the point where the enemy last crossed White Oak Swamp. I think that I might hold such a line until I could get re-enforcements. The other crossings of the swamp can be held by cavalry for some time. * * *

Most of this new line could be put up to-morrow if all of the negroes were put to work at it. If they can be sent I should be advised, so as to make my line of skirmishers stronger in front of that part of the line.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

[OCTOBER 29, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting operations at Rowanty Creek, &c., see Part I, p. 854.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 29, 1864.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh:

GOVERNOR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th instant, and while I regret the facts you state, I thank you for your efforts on our behalf. I am gratified to hear what you say of the home guards and reserves and trust that you will bring out as many as possible. With reference to the Sixty-seventh and Sixty-eighth Regiments, I understand that one is in Western North Carolina. I hope that the troops under Colonel Palmer are sufficient for the necessities of that region, especially as he is now co-operating with General Breckinridge so as to prevent the advance of the enemy from East Tennessee. I would therefore advise that whichever one of the regiments above referred to is in West North Carolina be sent to Wilmington to aid in the defense of that place.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

WILMINGTON, *October 29, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Your dispatch of yesterday can be only partially deciphered, but the written instructions ought to reach me in full time for action. No change has taken place since my first dispatch except a reduction of the number of the enemy's blockading vessels.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

CHARLESTON, *October 29, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Your dispatch of the 28th in cipher is received. I will assist and co-operate with General Bragg to the full extent of my ability. It is proper to say, however, that owing to the small force and the number of points to be defended much cannot be expected.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, October 29, 1864.

General J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,
Commanding Department of Southwest Virginia :

GENERAL: I beg leave to call your attention to the very distressing state of affairs in the mountains of Western North Carolina, and to ask your assistance in the effort to remedy it. I learn that in certain localities, particularly in Cherokee County and the region bordering, the warfare between scattering bodies of irregular troops is conducted on both sides without any regard whatever to the rules of civilized war or the dictates of humanity. The murder of prisoners and non-combatants in cold blood has, I learn, become quite common, and,

in fact, almost every other horror incident to brutal and unrestrained soldiery. I desire by all means to put an end to these things. The troops on our side are all commissioned and regularly authorized home guards or militia, are under my control, and can be made to conform to the usages of war provided a similar control can be exercised over our enemies. They are mostly tory renegades from both North Carolina and Tennessee, and pretend to be acting under regular Federal authority. If so, can we not by regular and systematized retaliation force them into terms? If not under Federal control, can they not be induced for the sake of humanity to assume such control of these bands of lawless men? I suggest the propriety of your communicating with the Federal general commanding East Tennessee to ascertain if some check cannot be given to the passions of men whose thirst for murder and robbery disgraces the name of soldiers, and if no relief can be afforded innocent non-combatants from these inhuman outrages. I will not stop to show that any acts of violence on our part are more than provoked and justified by the atrocities of the enemy, as I am not seeking to exculpate my own people or to inculpate those of the Federals; I desire only, if possible, to check the evil. Maj. M. L. Brittain, of the Cherokee Home Guards, and some of his battalion were recently captured, and were carried off, as I learn, with the avowed intention of murdering them. I shall of course retaliate, and at the rate of two for one, if this is done, and so there is no end of it. Please make an effort to save this officer and his men if you can hear of them. Should you be able to effect anything in this regard, I beg you will communicate with Col. J. B. Palmer, commanding at Asheville, N. C., and give him such instructions as you may think best for bringing about the desired end. I shall be pleased to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

I am, general, very respectfully and truly, your obedient servant,

Z. B. VANCE.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
October 30, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: By direction of Lieutenant-General Longstreet, I have the honor to reply to yours of the 29th instant. His letter to you was based on a hasty reconnaissance made by myself of White Oak Swamp. I had reported the swamp as impassable, except on the regular crossings, for large bodies of troops—that is, from about two miles from its head. On my report General Longstreet had the crossings blockaded, and when the enemy passed it on the 27th they had to cut out the obstructions. General Gary reports that the delay this caused was of great service to him at White Oak bridge. General Longstreet had thought a cavalry force could be placed which, with some artillery, would defend that crossing; at the upper road, where the enemy came through, an infantry line could be placed.

I have the honor to be, general, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General.

[OCTOBER 31, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting attack on enemy's picket-line by General Mahone, on night of 30th, &c., see Part I, p. 854.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
October 31, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

SIR: Some time since I recommended that a battalion of cavalry, or more, if it could be spared, be sent from South Carolina to the vicinity of Wilmington to take the place of several detached companies belonging to regiments in this army which are very much needed here. It is of great importance that General Bragg should have some cavalry in the vicinity of Wilmington, and I hope arrangements will be made to send this from South Carolina if it can be spared as soon as practicable. The First and Second South Carolina regiments which formerly belonged to this army might spare the desired force, and they are veteran troops accustomed to severe picket duty.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Indorsement.]

OCTOBER 31, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Give the orders necessary to effect the exchanges advised by General Lee.

J. A. S.,
Secretary.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 259. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, October 31, 1864.

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XVIII. Maj. J. C. Sexton, commissary of subsistence of the old Stonewall Brigade, will, without delay, relieve Maj. Thomas E. Ballard as commissary of Gordon's division, Second Corps, Army of Northern Virginia. Major Ballard on being relieved will report immediately to General R. E. Lee, commanding, for assignment to duty as chief commissary of Anderson's corps, Army of Northern Virginia.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JOHN W. RIELY,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
October 31, 1864.

Col. C. MARSHALL,
Aide-de-Camp:

COLONEL: Your note of yesterday evening was duly received, and the information, with the necessary instructions, communicated. Nothing further has been heard of the movement reported by General Ewell. Please remind the commanding general of his promise to get my corps together. The efficiency of the two divisions that are here would be much improved by putting them together; and the efficiency of the division that is in the Valley would be improved, probably four-fold, by uniting it with the other two. In addition to these advantages my line would be so strengthened as to enable me to resist with some

degree of certainity any advance of the enemy against Richmond. With my present force and long line, the safety of my position must, in a great measure, depend upon chance.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
October 31, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. P. ALEXANDER, *Commanding Artillery:*

The lieutenant-general commanding is extremely desirous of covering with the fire of artillery the crossing of White Oak Swamp, where the enemy will most likely attempt another passage. He crossed in the last effort he made at Mrs. Hobson's, and if that point could be brought under the fire of some of your long range guns, it would greatly add to the security of the position. General Longstreet desires, therefore, that you will put in the works, at the nearest or most favorable point, all the long-range guns you can bring to bear on the crossing referred to. Please let me know what you will be able to do in the matter.

G. M. SORREL,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

Abstract from monthly return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee commanding, for October 31, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.				Horses.	Field.
First Army Corps (Longstreet)	17	.....	.....	17	20	.....	.....
Pickett's division	395	5,764	5,764	7,346	11,838	.....	.....
Field's division	398	3,994	3,994	5,592	11,860	.....	.....
Hoke's division *a*	376	4,505	4,505	5,527	11,931	.....	.....
Total	1,186	14,263	14,263	18,482	35,649	.....	.....
Johnson's division (Anderson) *b*	553	6,339	6,329	7,968	13,350	.....	.....
Third Army Corps (Hill)	19	.....	.....	19	19	.....	.....
Heth's division	361	4,198	4,198	5,202	12,668	.....	.....
Wilcox's division	403	5,034	5,034	6,455	11,969	.....	.....
Mahone's division	395	4,546	4,546	6,010	13,659	.....	.....
Total	1,178	13,778	13,778	17,686	38,315	.....	.....
First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia (Wise).	227	2,226	2,226	2,940	4,548	45	63
Third Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia (Whiting).	212	3,863	3,863	5,504	7,323	.....	.....
Second Army Corps—Valley District (Early) *c*	18	.....	.....	18	20	.....	.....
Rodes' division	198	2,316	2,316	3,434	12,746	.....	.....
Early's division	137	1,794	1,794	2,447	8,220	.....	.....
Gordon's division	196	2,073	2,073	2,782	13,680	.....	.....
Wharton's division	112	1,538	1,538	2,113	7,036	.....	.....
Kershaw's division	285	2,856	2,856	4,129	10,969	.....	.....
Artillery	65	923	923	1,184	2,448	322	24
Total	1,011	11,500	11,500	16,107	55,119	322	24

a Temporarily in First Army Corps.
b Of Anderson's corps.
c Cavalry of Valley District not reported. Kershaw's division temporarily serving in Valley District.

Abstract from monthly return of the Army of Northern Virginia, &c.—Continued.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of artillery.	
	Officers.	Men.				Horses.	Field.
Cavalry Corps (Hampton)	12	.....	.....	12	14	.....	.....
Hampton's division	112	1,435	1,435	2,114	5,642	.....	.....
Fitz Lee's division	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
W. H. F. Lee's division	158	2,888	2,888	3,645	5,899	.....	.....
Dearing's brigade	68	1,248	1,248	1,630	2,319	.....	.....
Horse Artillery	3	83	83	93	125	125	4
Total	353	5,654	5,654	7,494	13,999	125	4
Artillery Reserve, &c. (Pendleton):							
First Army Corps	105	2.150	2,150	2,489	3,266	1,041	89
Third Army Corps	125	1,959	1,959	2,480	3,505	924	102
Anderson's corps	65	948	948	1,198	1,658	602	51
Total	295	5,057	5,057	6,167	8,429	2,567	242
Provost Guard	24	205	205	285	369	.....	.....
Grand total	5,039	62,885	62,875	82,633	177,101	3,059	333

*Organization of the Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by General R. E. Lee, October 31, 1864.**

FIRST ARMY CORPS.†

Lieut. Gen. JAMES LONGSTREET.

PICKETT'S DIVISION.‡

Maj. Gen. GEORGE E. PICKETT.

Steuart's Brigade.§

Brig. Gen. GEORGE H. STEUART.

9th Virginia, Col. James J. Phillips.
14th Virginia, Col. William White.
38th Virginia, Col. George K. Griggs.
53d Virginia, Col. William R. Aylett.
57th Virginia, Col. Clement R. Fontaine.

Hunton's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EPPA HUNTON.

8th Virginia, Col. Norborne Berkeley.
18th Virginia, Col. Henry A. Carrington.
19th Virginia, Col. Henry Gantt.
28th Virginia, Col. William Watts.
56th Virginia, Col. William E. Green.

Corse's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. MONTGOMERY D. CORSE.

15th Virginia, Col. Thomas P. August.
17th Virginia, Col. Arthur Herbert.
29th Virginia, Col. James Giles.
30th Virginia, Col. Archibald T. Harrison.
32d Virginia, Col. Edgar B. Montague.

Terry's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM R. TERRY.

1st Virginia, Col. Frederick G. Skinner.
3d Virginia, Col. Joseph Mayo, jr.
7th Virginia, Col. Charles C. Flowerree.
11th Virginia, Col. Maurice S. Langhorne.
24th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Richard L. Maury.

*From monthly return when not otherwise indicated. That return does not always indicate actual commanders.

† For Kershaw's division, see Army Valley District, p. 1194.

‡ Only three brigadier-generals reported present for duty; names not indicated.

§ Formerly Barton's brigade.

FIELD'S DIVISION.*

Maj. Gen. CHARLES W. FIELD.

Law's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EVANDER M. LAW.

4th Alabama, Col. Pinckney D. Bowles.
15th Alabama, Col. Alexander A. Lowther.
44th Alabama, Col. William F. Perry.
47th Alabama, Col. Michael J. Bulger.
48th Alabama, Lieut. Col. William M. Hardwick.

Anderson's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE T. ANDERSON.

7th Georgia, Col. George H. Carmical.
8th Georgia, Col. John R. Towers.
9th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Edward F. Hoge.
11th Georgia, Col. Francis H. Little.
59th Georgia, Col. Jack Brown.

Benning's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HENRY L. BENNING.

2d Georgia, Col. Edgar M. Butt.
15th Georgia, Col. Dudley M. Du Bose.
17th Georgia, Col. Wesley C. Hodges.
20th Georgia, Col. James D. Waddell.

Gregg's Brigade.

3d Arkansas, Col. Van H. Manning.
1st Texas, Lieut. Col. Frederick S. Bass.
4th Texas, Col. John P. Bane.
5th Texas, Col. Robert M. Powell.

Bratton's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN BRATTON.

1st South Carolina [Volunteers], Col. James R. Hagood.
2d South Carolina [Rifles], Col. Robert E. Bowen.
5th South Carolina, Col. A. Coward.
6th South Carolina, Col. John M. Steedman.
Palmetto Sharpshooters, Col. Joseph Walker.

HOKE'S DIVISION.†

Maj. Gen. ROBERT F. HOKE.

Colquitt's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED H. COLQUITT.

6th Georgia.
19th Georgia.
23d Georgia.
27th Georgia.
28th Georgia.

Clingman's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. THOMAS L. CLINGMAN.

8th North Carolina.
31st North Carolina.
51st North Carolina.
61st North Carolina.

Kirkland's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM W. KIRKLAND.

17th North Carolina.
42d North Carolina.
66th North Carolina.

Hagood's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHNSON HAGOOD.

11th South Carolina.
21st South Carolina.
25th South Carolina.
27th South Carolina.
7th South Carolina Battalion.

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* Only one brigadier-general reported present for duty.

† Temporarily serving with First Army Corps. Three brigadier-generals reported present for duty; regimental commanders not reported on original.

THIRD ARMY CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. AMBROSE P. HILL.

HETH'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. HENRY HETH.

Davis' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH R. DAVIS

2d Mississippi, Col. John M. Stone.
11th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. William B. Lowry.
26th Mississippi, Col. Arthur E. Reynolds.
42d Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Andrew M. Nelson.
1st Confederate Battalion, ——— ———.

Cooke's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN R. COOKE.

15th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William H. Yarborough.
27th North Carolina, Col. John A. Gilmer, jr.
46th North Carolina, Col. William L. Saunders.
48th North Carolina, Col. Samuel H. Walkup.

MacRae's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM MACRAE.

11th North Carolina, Col. William J. Martin.
26th North Carolina, Col. John R. Lane.
44th North Carolina, Col. Thomas C. Singeltary.
47th North Carolina, Col. George H. Faribault.
52d North Carolina, Col. Marcus A. Parks.

*Archer's Brigade.**

Col. ROBERT M. MAYO.

13th Alabama, Lieut. Col. James Aiken.
1st Tennessee, Provisional Army, Lieut. Col. Newton J. George.
7th Tennessee, Col. John A. Fite.
14th Tennessee, Col. William McComb.

*Walker's Brigade.**

40th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Arthur S. Cunningham.
47th Virginia, Col. Robert M. Mayo.
55th Virginia, Col. William S. Christian.
2d Maryland Battalion, Lieut. Col. James R. Herbert.

WILCOX'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. CADMUS M. WILCOX.

Thomas' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD L. THOMAS.

14th Georgia, Col. Richard P. Lester.
35th Georgia, Col. Bolling H. Holt.
45th Georgia, Col. Thomas J. Simmons.
49th Georgia, Col. John T. Jordan.

Lane's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. LANE.

7th North Carolina, Col. Edward G. Haywood.
18th North Carolina, Col. John D. Barry.
28th North Carolina, Col. William H. A. Speer.
33d North Carolina, Col. Robert V. Cowan.
37th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William G. Morris.

McGowan's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL MCGOWAN.

1st South Carolina [Provisional Army], Col. Charles W. McCreary.
12th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. T. Frank Clyburn.
13th South Carolina, Col. Isaac F. Hunt.
14th South Carolina, Col. Joseph N. Brown.
Orr's [First South Carolina] Rifles, Col. George McD. Miller.

Scales' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED M. SCALES.

13th North Carolina, Col. Joseph H. Hyman.
16th North Carolina, Col. William A. Stowe.
22d North Carolina, Col. Thomas S. Gallaway, jr.
34th North Carolina, Col. William L. J. Lowrance.
38th North Carolina, Col. John Ashford.

* Apparently consolidated, under command of Col. R. M. Mayo.

MAHONE'S DIVISION.*

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM MAHONE.

Sanders' Brigade.

Col. J. HORACE KING.

8th Alabama, Maj. John P. Emrich.
9th Alabama, Capt. Archer H. Hays.
10th Alabama, Capt. Wilson L. Brewster.
11th Alabama, Lieut. Col. George E. Taylor.
14th Alabama, Capt. John A. Terrell.

Mahone's Brigade.

Col. DAVID A. WEISIGER.

6th Virginia, Maj. Robert B. Taylor.
12th Virginia, Maj. John R. Lewellen.
16th Virginia, Capt. Solomon B. Eley.
41st Virginia, Lieut. Col. Joseph P. Minetree.
61st Virginia, Lieut. Col. William H. Stewart.

Wright's Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM GIBSON.

3d Georgia, Capt. James K. Wright.
22d Georgia, Capt. George W. Thomas.
48th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Matthew R. Hall.
64th Georgia, Capt. James G. Brown.
2d Georgia Battalion, Lieut. G. J. Peacock.
10th Georgia Battalion, Capt. William A. Greer.

Finegan's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN.

2d Florida, Capt. John B. G. O'Neill.
5th Florida, Lieut. J. McQueen Auld.
8th Florida, Maj. Thomas E. Clarke.
9th Florida, Col. John M. Martin.
10th Florida, Lieut. Col. William W. Scott.
11th Florida, Col. Theodore W. Brevard.

Harris' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. NATHANIEL H. HARRIS.

12th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Thomas B. Manlove.
16th Mississippi, Lieut. H. S. Arnold.
19th Mississippi, Col. Richard W. Phipps.
48th Mississippi, Col. Joseph M. Jayne.

ANDERSON'S CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. RICHARD H. ANDERSON.

JOHNSON'S DIVISION.†

Maj. Gen. BUSHROD R. JOHNSON.

Elliott's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM H. WALLACE.

17th South Carolina, Col. Fitz William McMaster.
18th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. W. B. Allison.
22d South Carolina, Lieut. Col. William G. Burt.
23d South Carolina, Maj. Henry H. Lesesne.
26th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Joshua H. Hudson.
Holcombe Legion, Capt. A. B. Woodruff.

Ransom's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. MATTHEW W. RANSOM.

24th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. John L. Harris.
25th North Carolina, Col. Henry M. Rutledge.
35th North Carolina, Col. James T. Johnson.
49th North Carolina, Col. Lee M. McAfee.
56th North Carolina, Col. Paul F. Faison.

Wise's Brigade.

Col. JOHN T. GOODE.

26th Virginia, Capt. William K. Perrin.
34th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Randolph Harrison.
46th Virginia, Col. Randolph Harrison.
59th Virginia, Col. William B. Tabb.

Gracie's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ARCHIBALD GRACIE, Jr.

41st Alabama, Lieut. Col. Theodore G. Trimmier.
43d Alabama, Lieut. Col. John J. Jolly.
59th Alabama, Lieut. Col. George W. Huguley.
60th Alabama, Col. John W. A. Sanford.
23d Battalion Alabama Sharpshooters, Maj. Nicholas Stallworth.

* Names of commanders taken from inspection reports for this date.
† Names of commanders taken from inspection report.

FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT.

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE.

Walker's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES A. WALKER.

Battalion Virginia Reserves, Col. Richard A. Booker.
Battalion Virginia Reserves, Col. Benjamin L. Farinholt.
Battalion Virginia Reserves, Col. P. M. Henry.
Battalion Virginia Reserves, Col. Robert E. Withers.

Post Lynchburg and Detailed Men.

Brig. Gen. RALEIGH E. COLSTON.

Garnett's Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JOHN J. GARNETT.

Battalion C. S. Zouaves, Maj. Fulgence De Bordenave.
Battalion Virginia Reserves, Maj. D. E. Godwin.
Section of Bradford's (Mississippi) battery, Lieut. Andrew J. Cochran.
Company H, Eighth Georgia Cavalry, Lieut. A. M. G. Wiggins.

Petersburg.

Second-class militia, Capt. Owen H. Hobson.
Independent signal corps, Maj. James F. Milligan.

THIRD MILITARY DISTRICT.*

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM H. C. WHITING.

CAVALRY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON.

HAMPTON'S (OLD) DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. MATTHEW C. BUTLER.

Butler's Brigade.

Col. HUGH K. AIKEN.

4th South Carolina, Col. B. Huger Rutledge.
5th South Carolina, Capt. Augustus H. Caughman.
6th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Lovick P. Miller.

Rosser's Brigade.†

7th Virginia, Col. Richard H. Dulany.
11th Virginia, Col. Oliver R. Funsten.
12th Virginia, Col. Asher W. Harman.
35th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Elijah V. White.

Young's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. PIERCE M. B. YOUNG.

7th Georgia, Maj. Edward C. Anderson, jr.
Cobb's (Georgia) Legion, Col. Gilbert J. Wright.
Phillips (Georgia) Legion,‡ Maj. William B. C. Puckett.
Jeff. Davis Legion,§ Lieut. Col. J. Fred. Waring.

FITZHUGH LEE'S DIVISION.

Wickham's Brigade.

1st Virginia, Col. R. Welby Carter.
2d Virginia, Col. Thomas T. Munford.
3d Virginia, Col. Thomas H. Owen.
4th Virginia, Col. William H. Payne.

Lomax's (old) Brigade.

5th Virginia, Col. Reuben B. Boston.
6th Virginia, Col. Julien Harrison.
15th Virginia, ——— ———.

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* Troops not indicated on return.
† Actual commanders not indicated.
‡ An Alabama battalion attached.
§ The 20th Georgia Battalion attached.

LEE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM H. F. LEE.

Chambliss' Brigade.

Col. RICHARD L. T. BEALE.

9th Virginia, Col. Richard L. T. Beale.
10th Virginia, Col. J. Lucius Davis.*
13th Virginia, Col. Jefferson C. Phillips.*

Barringer's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. RUFUS BARRINGER.

1st North Carolina, Col. William H. Cheek.
2d North Carolina, Col. William P. Roberts.
3d North Carolina, Col. John A. Baker.*
5th North Carolina, Maj. James H. McNeill.

UNASSIGNED.

Dearing's Brigade.

7th Confederate, Col. V. H. Taliaferro.
8th Georgia, Col. Joel R. Griffin.
4th North Carolina, Col. Dennis D. Ferebee.
Graham's (Virginia) battery, Capt. Edward Graham.

ARTILLERY RESERVE, ETC.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM N. PENDLETON.

[FIRST CORPS ARTILLERY.]

Cabell's Battalion.

1st Company Richmond Howitzers, Capt. Robert M. Anderson.
Manly's battery, Capt. Basil C. Manly.
Pulaski Artillery, Lieut. Morgan Callaway.
Troup Artillery, Capt. Henry H. Carlton.

Huger's Battalion.

Fickling's battery, Capt. William W. Fickling.
Moody's battery, Capt. George V. Moody.
Parker's battery, Capt. William W. Parker.
Smith's battery, Capt. John D. Smith.
Taylor's battery, Capt. Osmond B. Taylor.
Woolfolk's battery, Capt. Pichegru Woolfolk, jr.

Haskell's Battalion.

Flanner's battery, Capt. Henry G. Flanner.
Garden's battery, Capt. Hugh R. Garden.
Lamkin's battery, Capt. James N. Lamkin.
Ramsay's battery, Capt. John A. Ramsay.

Stark's Battalion.

Armistead's battery, Capt. Andrew D. Armistead.
French's battery, Capt. David A. French.
Green's battery, Capt. Charles A. Green.

Johnson's Battalion.

Clutter's battery, Lieut. Clifton H. Wilkes.
Dance's battery, Capt. Willis J. Dance.
Fredericksburg Artillery, Lieut. John G. Pollock.

Hardaway's Battalion.

Graham's battery, Capt. Archibald Graham.
Griffin's battery, Capt. Charles B. Griffin.
Smith's battery, Capt. Benjamin H. Smith, jr.

* Reported absent on inspection reports, and actual commanders of their regiments not indicated.

THIRD CORPS ARTILLERY.

Col. R. LINDSAY WALKER.

McIntosh's Battalion.

Col. DAVID G. MCINTOSH.

1st Maryland Battery, Capt. William F. Dement.
4th Maryland Battery, Capt. Walter S. Chew.
2d Rockbridge Artillery, Capt. William K. Donald.
Hurt's battery, Capt. William B. Hurt.
Rice's battery, Capt. Berryman Z. Price.

Poague's Battalion.

Col. WILLIAM T. POAGUE.

Graham's battery, Capt. Arthur B. Williams.
Utterback's battery, Capt. Addison W. Utterback.
Ward's battery, Capt. Thomas J. Richards.
Wyatt's battery, Capt. Charles F. Johnston.

Lane's Battalion.

Maj. JOHN LANE.

Irwin Artillery, Capt. John T. Wingfield.
Patterson's battery, Capt. George M. Patterson.
Ross' battery, Capt. Hugh M. Ross.

Pegram's Battalion.

Col. WILLIAM J. PEGRAM.

Crenshaw's battery, Capt. Thomas Ellett.
Gregg's battery, Capt. Thomas E. Gregg.
Letcher Artillery, Capt. Thomas A. Brander.
Purcell Artillery, Capt. George M. Cayce.

Richardson's Battalion.

Col. CHARLES RICHARDSON.

Donaldsonville Artillery, Capt. R. Prosper Landry.
Huger Artillery, Capt. Joseph D. Moore.
Norfolk Light Artillery, Capt. Charles R. Grandy.
Penick's Battery, Capt. Nathan Penick.

Eshleman's Battalion.

Col. BENJAMIN F. ESHLEMAN.

1st Company Washington Artillery, Capt. Edward Owen.
2d Company Washington Artillery, Capt. J. B. Richardson.
3d Company Washington Artillery, Capt. Andrew Hero, jr.
4th Company Washington Artillery, Capt. Joe Norcom.

Gibbes' Battalion.

Maj. W. MILLER OWEN.

Chamberlayne's battery, Capt. John H. Chamberlayne.
Otey's battery, Capt. David N. Walker.
Ringgold Battery, Capt. Crispin Dickenson.

ARTILLERY ANDERSON'S CORPS.

Col. HILARY P. JONES.

Read's Battalion.

Maj. JOHN P. W. READ.

Blount's battery, Capt. Joseph G. Blount.
Fauquier Artillery, Capt. William C. Marshall.
Fayette Artillery, Capt. Miles C. Macon.
Hampden Artillery, Capt. J. E. Sullivan.

Coit's Battalion.

Maj. JAMES C. COIT.

Bradford's battery, Capt. William D. Bradford.
Kelly's battery, Capt. James I. Kelly.
Pegram's battery, Capt. Richard G. Pegram.
Wright's battery, Capt. Samuel T. Wright.

Boggs' Battalion.

Capt. S. TAYLOR MARTIN.

Martin's battery, Lieut. Samuel H. Pulliam.
Sturdivant's battery, Lieut. Charles R. Darracott.

Moseley's Battalion.

Col. EDGAR F. MOSELEY.

Cumming's battery, Capt. James D. Cumming.
Miller's battery, Capt. John O. Miller.
Slaten's battery, Capt. C. W. Slaten.
Young's battery, Capt. Edward R. Young.

ARMY VALLEY DISTRICT.*

Lieut. Gen. JUBAL A. EARLY.

RODES' (LATE) DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. BRYAN GRIMES.

Battle's Brigade.

Lieut. Col. E. LAFAYETTE HOBSON.

3d Alabama, Capt. Watkins Phelan.
5th Alabama, Capt. Thomas M. Riley.
6th Alabama, Capt. Rinaldo M. Greene.
12th Alabama, Lieut. Col. John C. Goodgame.
61st Alabama, Maj. William E. Pinckard.

Cook's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. PHILIP COOK.

4th Georgia, Col. William H. Willis.
12th Georgia, Capt. Oliver F. Evans.
21st Georgia, Capt. Henry T. Battle.
44th Georgia, Lieut. Col. James W. Beck.

Grimes' Brigade.

Col. DAVID G. COWAND.

32d North Carolina, Capt. Thomas E. Ashcraft.
43d North Carolina, Col. John R. Winston.
45th North Carolina, Col. John R. Winston.
53d North Carolina, Capt. Thomas E. Ashcraft.
2d North Carolina Battalion, Capt. Thomas E. Ashcraft.

Cox's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM R. COX.

1st North Carolina, Capt. William H. Thomson.
2d North Carolina, Capt. Richard D. Hancock.
3d North Carolina, Capt. William H. Thomson.
4th North Carolina, Capt. Thomas G. Lee.
14th North Carolina, Capt. Joseph Jones.
30th North Carolina, Capt. William E. Ardrey.

EARLY'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN PEGRAM.

Godwin's (old) Brigade.

Col. HAMILTON A. BROWN.

6th North Carolina, Capt. John A. McPherson.
21st North Carolina, Capt. James F. Beall.
54th North Carolina, Capt. Lunsford A. Paschall.
57th North Carolina, Capt. John Beard.

Johnston's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT D. JOHNSTON.

5th North Carolina, Capt. Edward M. Duguid.
12th North Carolina, Capt. Kemp Plummer.
20th North Carolina, Col. Thomas F. Toon.
23d North Carolina, Capt. Abner D. Peace.
1st North Carolina Battalion Sharpshooters,† Capt. R. E. Wilson.

Pegram's Brigade.

Col. JOHN S. HOFFMAN.

13th Virginia, Capt. Samuel D. Buck.
31st Virginia, Lieut. Col. J. S. Kerr McCutchen.
49th Virginia, Capt. William D. Moffett.
52d Virginia, Maj. John D. Lilley.
58th Virginia, Capt. Hugh N. Burks.

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*As shown by inspection reports when not otherwise indicated.

†On return of the Army of Northern Virginia this battalion appears as of Godwin's brigade.

GORDON'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JOHN B. GORDON.

Evans' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. CLEMENT A. EVANS.

13th Georgia, Capt. D. A. Kidd.
26th Georgia, Maj. Benjamin F. Grace.
31st Georgia, Col. John H. Lowe.
38th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Philip E. Davant.
60th Georgia, Capt. John Y. Bedingfield.
61st Georgia, Capt. Eliphalet F. Sharp.
12th Georgia Battalion, Capt. George W. Johnson.

Hays' Brigade.

Lieut. Col. DAVID ZABLE.

5th Louisiana, 6th Louisiana, 7th Louisiana, } Maj. William H. Manning.
8th Louisiana, Capt. Louis Prados.
9th Louisiana, Capt. Cornelius Shively.

Terry's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM TERRY.

2d Virginia, 4th Virginia, 5th Virginia, 27th Virginia, 33d Virginia, } Col. Abraham Spengler.*
21st Virginia, 25th Virginia, 42d Virginia, 44th Virginia, 48th Virginia, } Col. William A. Witcher.†
10th Virginia, 23d Virginia, 37th Virginia, } Lieut. Col. Dorilas H. L. Martz.‡

Stafford's Brigade.§

1st Louisiana, 14th Louisiana, } Lieut. B. Goll.
2d Louisiana, Capt. A. S. Blythe.
10th Louisiana, 15th Louisiana, } Lieut. J. B. W. Penrose.
Sharpshooters [Company D, 1st Louisiana Volunteers]. Lieut. R. B. Joyce.

KERSHAW'S DIVISION.‖

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH B. KERSHAW.

Conner's Brigade.¶

Col. JOHN D. KENNEDY.

2d South Carolina.
3d South Carolina.
7th South Carolina.
8th South Carolina.
15th South Carolina.
20th South Carolina.
3d South Carolina Battalion.

Wofford's Brigade.

Col. C. C. SANDERS.

16th Georgia, Maj. John H. Skelton.
18th Georgia, Col. Joseph Armstrong.
24th Georgia, Col. C. C. Sanders.
3d Georgia Battalion Sharpshooters, Lieut. Col. Nathan L. Hutchins, jr.
Cobb's Legion, Lieut. Col. Luther J. Glenn.
Phillips Legion, Lieut. Col. Joseph Hamilton.

Humphreys' Brigade.

Maj. GEORGE L. DONALD.

13th Mississippi, Capt. Hugh D. Cameron.
17th Mississippi, Lieut. Joel W. Lewellen.
18th Mississippi, Lieut. William Baskin.
21st Mississippi, Maj. William H. Fitz Gerald.

Bryan's Brigade.

Col. JAMES P. SIMMS.

10th Georgia, Col. Willis C. Holt.
50th Georgia, Col. Peter McGlashan.**
51st Georgia, Col. Edward Ball.**
53d Georgia, Col. James P. Simms.

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* Stonewall Brigade.
† J. M. Jones' brigade.
‡ Steuart's brigade.
§ Under command of Lieut. Col. David Zable.
‖ Belonging to First Corps, but temporarily serving in Army Valley District.
¶ Brigade inspection report October 29 gives Maj. James M. Goggin as the commander; regimental commanders not indicated on original report.
** Reported absent wounded, and actual commanders of their regiments not stated.

WHARTON'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. GABRIEL C. WHARTON.

Wharton's Brigade.

Maj. PETER OTEY.

45th Virginia, Maj. Alexander M. Davis.*
50th Virginia, Col. Alexander S. Vandeventer.*
51st Virginia, Col. Augustus Forsberg.*
30th Virginia Battalion Sharpshooters, Lieut. Col. J. Lyle Clarke.*

Echols' Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JOHN C. MCDONALD.

22d Virginia, Capt. James C. Johns.
23d Virginia Battalion, Capt. John M. Pratt.
26th Virginia Battalion, Capt. Edmund S. Read.

Smith's Brigade.

Col. THOMAS SMITH.

36th Virginia, Lieut. Col. William E. Fife.*
60th Virginia, Col. Beuhring H. Jones.*
45th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Henry M. Beckley.*
Thomas Legion, Lieut. Col. James R. Love.

CAVALRY CORPS.†

LOMAX'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. LUNSFORD L. LOMAX.

McCausland's Brigade.

14th Virginia.
16th Virginia.
17th Virginia.
25th Virginia.
37th Virginia Battalion.

Imboden's Brigade.

18th Virginia.
23d Virginia.
62d Virginia Mounted Infantry.

Johnson's Brigade.

8th Virginia.
21st Virginia.
22d Virginia.
34th Virginia Battalion.
36th Virginia Battalion.

Jackson's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HENRY B. DAVIDSON.

2d Maryland Battalion.
19th Virginia.
20th Virginia.
46th Virginia Battalion.
47th Virginia Battalion.

ARTILLERY.†

Brig. Gen. ARMISTEAD L. LONG.

Braxton's Battalion.

Alleghany Artillery, Capt. John C. Carpenter.
Lee Battery, Lieut. William W. Hardwicke.
Stafford Artillery, Capt. Raleigh L. Cooper.

Carter's Battalion.

Jeff. Davis Artillery, Capt. William J. Reese.
King William Artillery, Capt. William P. Carter.
Morris Artillery, Capt. Samuel H. Pendleton.
Orange Artillery, Capt. C. W. Fry.

Cutshaw's Battalion.

Charlottesville Artillery, Capt. James McD. Carrington.
Courtney Artillery, Capt. William A. Tanner.
Staunton Artillery, Capt. Asher W. Garber.

Nelson's Battalion.

Amherst Artillery, Capt. Thomas J. Kirkpatrick.
Fluvanna Artillery, Capt. John L. Massie.
Milledge Artillery, Capt. John Milledge, jr.

* These officers reported absent, and actual commanders not indicated.
† From return of Army of Northern Virginia.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell, commanding, for October 31, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Prisoners.	
	Officers.	Men.				Officers.	Men.
General staff	12	.....	.....	12	12	.....	.....
Johnson's brigade	52	414	483	707	1,680	49	487
25th Virginia Battalion	18	309	337	397	817	1	21
Total	70	723	820	1,104	2,497	50	508
Gary's brigade	70	911	1,227	1,472	2,664	6	183
Artillery Defenses	71	1,216	1,304	1,488	3,572	3	1
Grand total	223	2,850	3,351	4,076	8,745	59	692
Virginia Reserves and irregular troops (Barton)	.....	.....	.....	1,509	.....	.....	.....
Local Defense Troops (Lee)	.....	.....	.....	1,763	.....	.....	.....
Camp Lee (Shields)	.....	.....	.....	26	.....	.....	.....

Organization of troops in the Department of Richmond, commanded by Lieut. Gen. Richard S. Ewell, C. S. Army, October 31, 1864.

Johnson's Brigade.

Col. JOHN M. HUGHS.

17th and 23d Tennessee (consolidated).
44th and 28th Tennessee (consolidated).
63d Tennessee.

Cavalry Brigade.

Brig. Gen. MARTIN W. GARY.

Hampton Legion.
7th South Carolina
24th Virginia.

Not brigaded.

25th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Wyatt M. Elliott.
Local Defense Troops, Brig. Gen. George W. C. Lee.
Virginia Reserves, Brig. Gen. Seth M. Barton.
Irregular troops and 18th Georgia Battalion.

ARTILLERY DEFENSES.

Lieut. Col. JOHN C. PEMBERTON.

FIRST DIVISION (INNER LINE).

Lieut. Col. JOHN W. ATKINSON.

10th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. James O. Hensley.
19th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. N. R. Cary.

SECOND DIVISION (INNER LINE)

Lieut. Col. JAMES HOWARD.

18th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. Mark B. Hardin.
20th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. James E. Robertson.

LIGHT ARTILLERY.

Lieut. Col. CHARLES E. LIGHTFOOT.

Caroline (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. Thomas R. Thornton.
Second Nelson (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. J. Henry Rives.
Surry (Virginia) Artillery, Capt. James D. Hankins.

PETERSBURG, VA., *November 1, 1864.*

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

General Baker reports that the enemy, having passed up Middle River, came down the Roanoke on the morning of the 31st and attacked the forts at Plymouth in front. He fought them until they had passed the first fort, and dismounted the guns in the others. He then withdrew his command from Plymouth, with small loss, to Rainbow Bend, and from Washington to Greenville.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
November 1, 1864. (Received 10.40 a. m.)

General SAMUEL COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

General Lee moves his headquarters to Petersburg to-day. Communications should be addressed to him there.

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
[*November —, 1864.*]

Brig. Gen. M. W. GARY,
Commanding Cavalry Brigade:

General Longstreet directs that you direct the officer in charge of the company of cavalry from your brigade, sent sometime since to watch the North Anna and Pamunkey, to push out a good scouting party beyond the Rappahannock. That portion of the Fifteenth Virginia Cavalry scouting recently in that direction has been withdrawn, and it has become necessary to call on your command for this duty. The engineer department are engaged in removing the iron from the Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, and it is important to have scouts out to give notice of the approach of the enemy.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

OSMAN LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
November 2, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: After using the most strenuous efforts to mount my men there will still be a large number who will be unable to procure horses. These could be organized into regiments to form a brigade to act as infantry with the cavalry. I think that a large brigade might be formed, the officers to be appointed by the President. When the cavalry is stationary, as at present, this brigade could occupy the works. When we are in motion it could constitute a guard for the trains. In a fight it would be of material service to the cavalry. When it captures horses men could be mounted on them and transferred back to the cavalry,

and during the active campaign all men temporarily dismounted could be assigned to it. A brigade of several thousand men might be formed, I think, and I am very anxious to try the proposed experiment. This would be done after exchanging all the men possible with the infantry.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

WADE HAMPTON,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *November 2, 1864.*

Lieut. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Raleigh, N. C.:

Had you not better confer with General Bragg as to assignment of reserves? If you and he can harmonize your opinions, the present division of power has some advantages in administration.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 45. } HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *November 3, 1864.*

The artillery battalion of Major Gibbes, temporarily commanded by Major Owen, being posted on the line now under charge of Lieutenant-General Anderson, will until further orders be regarded as detached from its permanent connection with the First Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, and for the time attached to General Anderson's corps. Major Owen will accordingly report to Col. H. P. Jones, chief of artillery Anderson's corps.

By command of General Pendleton:

D. D. PENDLETON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 265. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *November 3, 1864.*

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XIV. Brig. Gen. D. A. Weisiger, Provisional Army, C. S., is assigned to the command of Mahone's (old) brigade, Mahone's division, Third Army Corps, and will report accordingly.

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By command of General R. E. Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 263. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, November 4, 1864.*

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XVIII. The following-named assistant adjutants-general are assigned to duty as below under the provisions of paragraph VI, General Orders, No. 44, and will report immediately:

Army of Northern Virginia (General R. E. Lee)—Lieut. Cols. W. H. Taylor, Charles Marshall, Charles S. Venable, E. Murray; Majs. H. E. Peyton, H. E. Young, G. B. Cooke.

First Corps, Army of Northern Virginia (Lieut. Gen. J. Longstreet)—Majs. John W. Fairfax, Osman Latrobe. Second Corps, Army of Northern Virginia (Lieut. Gen. J. A. Early)—Majs. J. H. New, R. W. Hunter. Third Corps, Army of Northern Virginia (Lieut. Gen. A. P. Hill)—Lieut. Col. W. H. Palmer; Majs. W. N. Starke, R. J. Wingate. Cavalry Corps, Army of Northern Virginia (Maj. Gen. W. Hampton)—Majs. A. R. Venable, jr., George Freaner, H. B. McClellan.

Pickett's division, Majs. Charles Pickett, Walter Harrison; Kershaw's division, Majs. E. L. Costin, James M. Goggin; Wilcox's division, Majs. J. A. Engelhard, L. H. Hunt; Early's division, Majs. R. R. Hutchinson, J. W. Daniel; Field's division, Maj. L. Masters; Anderson's division (now under Mahone), Majs. Thomas S. Mills, R. P. Duncan; Heth's division, Majs. R. H. Finney, H. H. Harrison; Gordon's division (formerly Ed. Johnson's), Majs. E. L. Moore, H. Kyd Douglas; Rodes' division, Majs. H. A. Whiting, Greene Peyton; Hoke's division, Majs. J. L. Cross, J. M. Adams; M. C. Butler's division (formerly Hampton's), Majs. T. G. Barker, John Preston; Lomax's division (formerly R. Ransom, jr.'s), Maj. Thomas Rowland, Capt. J. T. Brown; B. R. Johnson's division, Capts. R. E. Foote, W. H. Whitner; Fitz. Lee's division, Majs. J. D. Ferguson, Thomas F. Bowie; W. H. F. Lee's division, Capt. John M. Lee.

Steuart's brigade (formerly Barton's), Capt. J. D. Darden; Hunton's brigade, Capt. E. C. Fitzhugh; G. T. Anderson's brigade, Capt. C. C. Hardwick; Echols' brigade, Capt. W. R. Preston; Gregg's brigade, Capt. John W. Kerr; Gracie's brigade, Capt. H. E. Jones; Benning's brigade, Capt. S. J. Benning; Clingman's brigade, Capt. Edward White; M. W. Ransom's brigade, Capt. S. H. Gee; Colquitt's brigade, Capt. G. G. Grattan; Martin's brigade, Capt. C. G. Elliott; Law's brigade, Capt. T. L. Christian; Wofford's brigade, Capt. A. F. Woolley; Bryan's brigade, Capt. James W. Walker; Sanders' brigade, Capt. W. E. Winn; Harris' brigade, Capt. James Hays; Finegan's brigade, Capt. J. G. Spann; Scales' brigade, Capt. R. B. Henderson; Archer's brigade, Capt. R. M. Grinnell; Corse's brigade, Capt. P. B. Hooe; Bratton's brigade, Capt. A. C. Sorrel; Humphreys' brigade, Capt. John H. Hobart; Kershaw's brigade, Capt. Charles R. Holmes; Weisiger's brigade, Capt. W. E. Cameron; B. R. Johnson's old brigade, Capt. J. M. Pace; Lane's brigade, Capt. E. J. Hale, jr.; J. R. Cooke's brigade, Capt H. A. Butler; Pegram's brigade (now under Lilley), Capt. R. T. Daniel, jr.; Godwin's brigade (formerly Hoke's), Capt. J. M. Richardson; Bryan Grimes' brigade, Capt. W. L. London; R. D. Johnston's brigade, Capt. D P. Halsey; Young's brigade, Capts. W. L. Church, Thomas Boyd Edelin; McCausland's brigade, Capts. N. Fitzhugh, George H. Eyster; Ramseur's brigade (now W. R. Cox's), Capt. Seaton Gales; Wickham's brigade, Capts. Peter Fontaine, C. I. Harvie; Barringer's brigade, Capts. J. L. Gaines, Chiswell Dabney; Imboden's brigade, Capts. C. S. Morgan, F. B. Berkeley; Wright's brigade (now under General Sorrel), Capt. H. H. Perry; Thomas' brigade, Capt. William Norwood; J. R. Davis' brigade, Capt. J. J. Evans; McGowan's brigade, Capt. L. C. Haskell; MacRae's brigade, Capt. Louis G. Young; York's brigade (formerly Hays' and Stafford's), Capt. W. J. Seymour; C. A. Evans' brigade, Capt. Edward Hull; William Terry's brigade, Capt. R. J. Barton; Battle's brigade, Capt. A. H. Pickett; Philip Cook's brigade (formerly Doles' brigade), Capt. F. T. Snead; Wise's brigade, Capt. J. H. Pearce; Rosser's brigade, Capts. John W. Emmett, R. B. Kennon; Butler's brigade, Capts. R. Lowndes, J. N. Lipscomb; Lomax's brigade, Capts.

C. P. Grady, W. F. Hullehen; Chambliss' brigade, Capt. J. V. H. Nash; B. T. Johnson's brigade, Capts. W. K. Martin, C. R. W. Radford; Wharton's brigade, Capt. C. A. De Russy.

First Corps artillery (General Alexander), Capts. S. Winthrop, J. C. Haskell; Third Corps artillery (Col. R. L. Walker), Capts. W. W. Chamberlaine, Richard Walke; Artillery Corps, Army of Northern Virginia (General W. N. Pendleton), Capt. D. D. Pendleton; Second Corps artillery (General A. L. Long), Capt. W. A. Percy.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
Petersburg, Va., November 4, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. H. ANDERSON,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: The proposition presented to me, I find on examination, is as follows: To hold 7,636 yards of our line with the whole of my division, or to hold five-sevenths of that distance with half of my division, the five-sevenths of the line to be held by half of the division being much the most dangerous and difficult part to hold. I am very desirous of getting even half of my division out of the trenches. It would be a great advantage to the troops this winter, especially in point of discipline and drill, but the propositions presented to me are so unequal that with the alternative at my discretion I can only accept that to extend to Lieutenant Run. If acceptable, I will hold one-half the distance from the Appomattox to the point where Lieutenant Run crosses our breast-works with half my command, and will take that half of the line most difficult to hold.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 4, 1864.

General BRAGG,
Commanding, &c., Wilmington:

GENERAL: Such indications as we can collect, more or less to be relied on, point to Fort Fisher and the left bank of the Cape Fear as the object of the enemy's proposed attack. Evidently it is the opinion of the enemy that Fort Fisher not only commands the entrance of New Inlet, but also the river inside. Its fall would necessarily involve that of the other forts as well as close the port, hence they will naturally prefer to take it first. You are aware how easy is access to any point on the left bank of the Cape Fear between the city and Confederate Point, and what would be the consequence of occupation by the enemy. We will have, in addition, to meet the newly arranged chain-covered wooden ships, found at Mobile to be less vulnerable and more formidable, as easier managed and carrying more guns than the monitors. Some of these may, in the naval attack, succeed in passing the forts. A junction between them and the land force on the left bank of the Cape

Fear seals the fate of Fort Fisher and with it the harbor and the city. Nothing can prevent this but troops in force and posted ready to meet the approach. There is no such force here, and I have to state that the operation by which the enemy could inevitably overpower Fort Fisher can be done during any twenty-four hours in our present condition. I have represented this again and again and applied for troops. I leave the matter with you, in the earnest hope that your superior rank and position will enable you to urge the same appeal (for I know your views on the subject) with more effect than I have been able to do.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 4, 1864.

General HÉBERT,
Commanding, &c., Smithville:

GENERAL: The matters to which attention is called from the inspection of yesterday are:

First. The speedy occupation of east end of Smith's Island.

Second. To have the garrison fill up the gun chambers to circular workment and the void spaces against the traverses with sand-bags. Engineer department has been ordered to supply bags.

Third. Another 10-pounder should at once be mounted at Battery Buchanan. Direct Lamb to put the platforms for three or four heavy guns close to the mound on the right and left of it, unless you can suggest a better locality. I think it very important that the heaviest fire possible should be secured on the inner channel. The guns of Fort Fisher itself are so far to the left that I fear they will not avail much to stop the chain-armored ships.

Fourth. Advanced work at Gatlin to be pushed forward as rapidly as our means will allow. Under the parapet of the salient small passages or mining galleries, 2x3, may be made while building for the purpose of mining the approach on the salient.

Fifth. I am considering the matter of putting down the rope obstructions for Fisher at once. Shall submit the question to General Bragg.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF RICHMOND,
November 5, 1864.

General R. H. CHILTON,
Inspector-General C. S. Army:

GENERAL: I beg to submit the following in lieu of the regular monthly inspection report, which it has so far been impossible to prepare owing to the newness of the greater portion of the command and its consequent deficiencies in organization and system. A reason even more powerful has been the constant and severe labor which the troops have been called upon to perform in erecting fortifications. General Barton's brigade is composed at present of the Eighteenth Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery (properly of Colonel Pemberton's command), Twenty-fifth Virginia Battalion Infantry (City Battalion),

First Battalion Virginia Reserves, Third Battalion Virginia Reserves, Fourth Battalion Virginia Reserves, Eighteenth Georgia Battalion Heavy Artillery (temporarily in this department by order from headquarters Department of Northern Virginia). These troops have an aggregate present of 1,509. General G. W. C. Lee's brigade consists of the Local Defense Troops, the Second Virginia Battalion Reserves, and the Tenth Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, with aggregate present of 1,763. Johnson's (Tennessee) brigade (Col. J. M. Hughs commanding), reports an effective present of 481; aggregate present, 704. Lieutenant-Colonel Pemberton's command (the Artillery Defenses) has present effective, 1,304; aggregate present, 1,488. The brigades of Generals Barton and Lee and Colonel Hughs have been so constantly occupied with work and picket duty as to be unable to pay much attention to police of camp or daily drills. The few troops who compose Hughs' brigade are pretty well drilled, as are the heavy artillery battalions, but the reserves in particular need instructions, not being acquainted with even the school of the company, so far as I have seen. They are now drilled daily as much as practicable. Sinks have been dug and the men required to use them. The sinks of General Lee's command being placed in front his works, the ground in the neighborhood of his camps is quite clean. Along General Barton's line the men are now thinly scattered in works, which were at one time occupied by a considerably larger force. They were unable until very lately to complete the works and to clean up the whole extent of ground left dirty by the troops before them. Hence the police of this part of the line is not good, though it soon will be. Very few depredations have been complained of, the chief reason of which is that the ground was pretty well stripped before these troops occupied it. The health of the command is good, except that of the reserves, many of whom are poorly clad. Several desertions took place from the mechanics among the Local Defense Troops during the first half of the month, the men being frightened by the orders revoking details and fearing that they would be put permanently in the field. These have now ceased. Six or seven of the Castle Thunder battalion have deserted to the enemy. With these exceptions the morale of the troops has been fine, so far I could ascertain. Their arms are well kept and due precaution taken to prevent the waste of ammunition. The heavy artillery along the intermediate line proper keep their camps and arms in very good order, being enabled to do so easily by the stationary nature of their duty. General Gary's cavalry brigade is temporarily under General Longstreet's command. I hope by the 15th of this month to make a complete and comparatively satisfactory report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CAMPBELL BROWN,
Major and Assistant Inspector-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 6, 1864.

Flag-Officer PINCKNEY,
Commanding C. S. Naval Forces, North Carolina, Present:

FLAG OFFICER: I think the time has come for your naval force to occupy, in part at least, the battery commanding the Eastern Rip, which I propose to turn over to you. I beg that until it is completed entirely you will give instructions to your officers and men not to interfere in any way with the working parties engaged in finishing the defenses or with

their officers. In the meantime, your men can move, use, and practice with the three 10-pounder columbiad guns, which are now mounted, and make such shift with what quarters and conveniences we have put up, as circumstances for the present will admit. I would much prefer to turn everything over to you complete, but with the great pressure upon me now for labor at so many important points I am compelled to place first the new battery in condition to be fought with effect and to wait awhile before putting up all the conveniences which you will require. I trust your officers and men will understand and appreciate this. It is hardly necessary to say that the point they will occupy is one of the most important in our system of defense, and must be held at all hazards and to the last extremity. I shall do all in my power to make it tenable, and shall rely implicitly on your people to fight it. I understand that the enemy are covering their wooden ships with chain armor. This is very formidable and effective, and may enable many of them, unless obstructed, to pass the forts of the army. You will have the defense of a narrow and difficult pass and one of the last importance as regards the harbor. The command will be exclusively naval, as much so as if the defensive force was in a ship-of-war at anchor off the Rip. I have only to request a general compliance with standing regulations. The commanding officer at Fort Fisher understands this, and is ready to co-operate and extend every aid in his power. It will probably be necessary, considering the limited number of men which will be at your disposal, for the land picket duty to be performed by the garrison of Fort Fisher.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 265. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., November 7, 1864.

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XVIII. Brig. Gen. H. H. Walker, Provisional Army, C. S., will report to Lieut. Gen. R. S. Ewell for assignment to duty as a member of the general court-martial of the Department of Richmond.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Commanding Division:

General Longstreet directs that you use every exertion to get your scouts in rear of the enemy to-night, and if possible find out what they are doing and what the movement last night meant. Whatever information you obtain please send up as quick as possible. You are also directed to put all of your axes at work at daylight to-morrow morning, felling all the trees within 1,000 yards of your lines in front.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

OSMAN LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Maj. Gen. C. W. Field.)

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
November 7, 1864.

General W. H. WALLACE,
Commanding Brigade:

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to request you to please convey to Captain Woodruff and the detachment of the Holcombe Legion with which he carried the enemy's picket-line in front of the Crater on the night of the 5th instant his high appreciation of their gallant conduct. Their casualties and the length of time during which they held the captured works under a severe fire is ample proof of discipline, determined perseverance, and courage alike honorable to men and officers, and these qualities are among the greatest upon which the best hopes of our country and the distinguished reputation of the command can rest.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. FOOTE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ELLIOTT'S BRIG., JOHNSON'S DIV.,
No. 20. } *November 7, 1864.*

The heroism displayed by the detachment of the Holcombe Legion, South Carolina Volunteers, in storming the works of the enemy on the night before last, and the steadiness with which they met a most galling fire from the enemy without the power of retorting upon them after the works were carried, entitles the officers and men of whom it was composed to a high meed of praise and to the thanks of their brigadier-general. The brigadier-general commanding, in common with the rest of their comrades in arms of the brigade, deeply deplores the loss of the brave officers and men who fell in the assault. Their conduct, and that of their companions who survived, again illustrates the courage and constancy that had before so honorably distinguished their corps.

By command of Brigadier-General Wallace:

A. L. EVANS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
November 8, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

DEAR SIR: I have the honor to submit for your consideration, as suggested by General Lee, the accompanying form of a bill* proposed for the action of Congress respecting the organization of our field artillery. The necessity for some such bill is serious and has long been felt in our artillery service. It arises from the fact that essential as our battalion organization has been found, its efficiency is much [impaired] by the

* Inclosure not found; but in connection with the subject, see Pendleton to Davis, Vol. XXXVI, Part III, p. 880.

impracticability of securing some important appliances, because of the absence of all legal sanction to the organization as now obtaining. At present, moreover, so many guns are required for officers of specified rank that we cannot get field officers enough. Experience proves that we ought to have two for each battalion, but under the casualties of service it has several times happened that there was no field officer for a battalion, while the senior captain was not a safe commander for the difficult complex charge. Besides, the extreme restrictions in the existing law as to rank of artillery officers operate alike unjustly and injuriously. We have a number of most deserving field officers to whom promotion is eminently due, and yet they cannot be justly rewarded as the law now stands. In view of the motives operating upon even the best men, this must repress energy while it is not itself right. I trust, therefore, the proposed measures will commend themselves to your approval and the bill will be promptly presented to Congress and be enacted into law. I send up the form of that bill as it was submitted to General Lee, his letter to myself based thereon, and the later form in which it is now proposed as adapted to the general's views.* The only point in which there can even appear a departure from General Lee's suggestions is in the proviso to section 11, in not specifying a major to command a battalion of two batteries and a colonel for one of six; but examination will show that both these arrangements are actually embraced in that proviso, while it avoids the embarrassments which often occur, as we have found under rigid specifications. I am satisfied the general would agree with me about this were it worth while to engage his time with a full exposition of the case. There is a minor point which cannot well be introduced into this bill, but which is, I think, worthy of consideration and action, viz, to allow to a four-gun battery two first lieutenants and one second lieutenant, instead of as now, one first and two second, the advantage being that it would prove an incentive where such stimulus is frequently salutary.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 8, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Commanding, &c., Present:

GENERAL: I have to report the arrival of the C. S. steamer Tallahassee last night. I cannot forbear expressing the opinion that such a cruise as this can scarcely be a set-off to the loss and damage already sustained by the fitting out of this expedition and the mischief which it will bring, and I most respectfully but earnestly recommend that nothing more of the kind be allowed, but that the ship and crew may be turned over to aid in the defense of the harbor.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

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* Inclosures not found; but in connection with the subject, see Pendleton to Davis, Vol. XXXVI, Part III, p. 880.

KINSTON, *November 9, 1864.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

A good scout from New Berne reports that an attack is certain on Wilmington. General Weitzel is to command. They will land on the sound and attack Fort Fisher in the rear.

C. LEVENTHORPE,
Brigadier-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *November 10, 1864.*

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

MY DEAR SIR: I accept your recommendation in relation to General Bragg, and will thank you to have an order issued assigning him to the command of North Carolina, as heretofore recommended by General Lee.

Very respectfully and truly, yours,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 10, 1864.

Colonel TANSILL,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General, Present:

COLONEL: I wish you temporarily to take command at Masonborough. In the importance of the present emergency I have to rely upon you especially. You will take Colonel Shober's regiment, Major Reilly's battalion, including Company K, Tenth Regiment, the nine companies of Senior Reserves, and Captain Paris' battery for the present; other troops will be sent you as rapidly as I can gather them. You will occupy the positions and camps which will be evacuated by Colonel Jackson. He moves with his present command (Paris excepted, and the pickets northeast of Wrightsville) to the Sugar Loaf to support Fort Fisher. You will communicate with him on your right and keep up your picket-lines. You will retain the 12-pounder Whitworth and attach it for the present to Paris' battery. We have received information which tallies with that [which] has been previously known of the the enemy's plans. Weitzel is to command the troops. They are to attempt a landing along or above the sound, establish a lodgment on the river, and attack Fort Fisher from the rear. There is but little doubt that this will be their movement, and all in our power must be done to resist it. Make your officers and men familiar with the coast and the locality. I am sure that I need make no further suggestion to an officer of your experience than that. I am satisfied the enemy's advance is in a forward state of preparation, if not altogether ready. Orders have been sent to Colonel Shober and Major Reilly to be in readiness to move at once. Please to see that the whole command marches together. Colonel Jackson will maintain the same picket guards to-night as heretofore. As he is ordered to move to-day, it will be well for you to see him and make your arrangements for relief and co-operation as soon as you can.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 10, 1864.

Col. GEORGE JACKSON,
Commanding, &c., Masonborough:

COLONEL: I wish you to move with your command, leaving Paris' battery and your pickets to the eastward, and move to the head of the sound. Captain Adams will report to you there with his battery. Information received renders it probable that attack is imminent, and that Fort Fisher will be the present object. Weitzel is said to be in command of the troops of the enemy designed to operate here, and his plan is reported to be landing on the sound and attacking Fort Fisher in the rear. Large sea-going ships of war, too large to attempt an entrance, will no doubt be used to cover the landing with their heavy fire, and it is no doubt most probable that they will select a point for landing as near to Fort Fisher as possible, both to give them a shorter line of attack and to enable them more securely to establish themselves on the river and thus cut off communication. Captain Hawks, Engineer Corps, is engaged in preparing defensive works from Sugar Loaf to Fort Fisher. You will at once make yourself thoroughly familiar with the localities, approaches, and lines of communication, about the intrenched camp at Sugar Loaf and toward the beach. Captain Hawks is engaged in perfecting a line of infantry communication, screened from enemy's observation by the bushes and sand-hills, together with a parallel line of artillery. You should keep up your picket communication with Colonel Tansill, who will succeed you at Masonborough. Your forces should be disposed between the Sugar Loaf, Battery Gatlin, and Battery Anderson. No doubt attempt may be made to land at night. The utmost of your vigilance and endurance will be taxed, and you must do all in your power to make promptness and activity supply the place of numbers. Whenever you post companies or guards, cause them to throw up a breast-work or cover toward the sea for their protection. Hold them always in readiness to turn out under arms at any moment. Do not permit any of the trees inside the lines at Sugar Loaf to be cut down. A telegraph instrument will be provided for you at Sugar Loaf. All the troops (Adams' battery included) should be posted where they cannot be observed from sea. Take care to make your men stand the shelling of the men-of-war. It makes more noise than damage. You must fight a landing to the utmost.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *November 10, 1864.*

General BRAGG:

The scout had a letter from New York. The fleet was to leave Fortress Monroe on Friday last.

C. LEVENTHORPE,
Brigadier-General.

Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee commanding, for November 10, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent
	Officers.	Men.		
First Army Corps (Longstreet) *a*	16	.....	16	19
Pickett's division	437	5,986	7,766	11,970
Field's division	414	4,227	5,732	11,831
Hoke's division	386	4,956	5,894	11,956
Total	1,253	15,169	19,408	35,776
Third Army Corps (Hill)	19	.....	19	19
Heth's division	377	4,520	5,546	12,753
Wilcox's division	420	5,360	6,766	12,091
Mahone's division	414	4,795	6,371	13,973
Total	1,230	14,675	18,702	38,836
Anderson's corps (Anderson) *b*				
Johnson's division	560	6,494	8,136	13,361
Cavalry (Hampton) *c*	11	.....	12	15
Hampton's division *d*	108	1,224	1,832	5,423
W. H. F. Lee's division *e*	157	3,123	3,870	6,347
Dearing's brigade *f*	68	1,303	1,675	2,498
Horse Artillery *g*	3	94	102	135
Total	347	5,744	7,491	14,418
Artillery (Pendleton)	8	9	17	19
First Army Corps	108	2,203	2,542	3,270
Third Army Corps	129	1,978	2,499	3,493
Anderson's corps	69	984	1,219	1,657
Total	314	5,174	6,277	8,439
First Military District (Wise)	217	2,271	2,986	4,578
Provost Guard (Bridgford)	21	200	286	363
Valley District (Early) *h*	18	.....	18	20
Rodes' division	198	2,316	3,434	12,746
Early's division	137	1,794	2,447	8,220
Gordon's division	206	2,073	2,792	13,690
Wharton's division	112	1,538	2,113	7,036
Kershaw's division	285	2,856	4,129	10,969
Artillery	60	923	1,179	2,443
Total	1,016	11,500	16,112	55,124
Grand total	4,958	61,227	79,398	170,895

a Kershaw's division detached. Hoke's division temporarily serving with First Army Corps.
b Hoke's division serving with First Army Corps.
c Fitz Lee's division and Rosser's brigade detached.
d 381 men dismounted.
e 401 men dismounted.
f 442 men dismounted.
g 10 men dismounted.
h Return of Valley District taken from return of October 31. Cavalry serving in Valley District not reported.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 269.

ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, November 11, 1864.*

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XXIV. The State of North Carolina east of the Blue Ridge Mountains is constituted a military department, to the command of which General Braxton Bragg is assigned. It will continue a part of the command of General R. E. Lee.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 21, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

This order was not intended to remove General Bragg from his position here, but only to enlarge the territory of his temporary command. I understand it has been differently construed.

J. D.

[Second indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 21, 1864.

Major RIELY:

This should have gone to Colonel Withers. I showed it to General C[ooper], who thinks no additional order is necessary; that the President's indorsement is only intended for the information of the Department.

H. L. C[LAY].

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 11, 1864.

Brigadier-General HÉBERT, *Commanding, &c., Smithville:*

GENERAL: I wish you would send to Fisher the remaining company of the Thirty-sixth Regiment. I sent last night by courier a drawing to Hawks of the projected work which we will call Fort Ramseur. It will govern his general construction, but as I had not a plat of the ground, and designed only from my note-book, he should, of course, modify the details suitably. I have already, on reflection, as I telegraphed, changed the north front by holding the interior crest in the same plane with that of the sea front and increasing the northwest half bastion, upon which a gun should be mounted. The rear, which is indicated only for stockade at present, should be of earth and pretty strong. I must consider the question of armament and prepare accordingly, though I apprehend that we will hardly have time allowed us. With regard to the other work which Hawks is doing, in addition to the picket road along the sand-hills, I think a light infantry breastwork ought to be made for some distance, about 300 yards from high-water mark or upon the swell of the land stretching from the woods above and behind Lamb's quarters as far up the beach as time will permit us to construct. We might put up a third or half a mile of such a light line covering that part of the neck which Iverson laid bare of trees. It occurs to me as likely that the enemy might select that point to land as affording them a pretty clear view of the river, only half a mile distant, and by the wooded swamp behind Lamb's a screen from Fort Fisher. Such a move, however, is likely only in case we are not able to put up Fort Ramseur in condition. That work, if completed, ought, I think, to force them to some point above. Colonel Jackson will, of course, take Adams' battery, and the charge of Gatlin and Anderson as they are now, but Colonel Lamb should continue his beach pickets, while Colonels Jackson and Tansill will continue the line parallel on the mainland. They should communicate constantly and closely. A telegraph office should be established at Sugar Loaf. Colonel Jackson has been directed whenever he posts a company or guard, or light battery as outposts on the edge of the woods to cause them to cover themselves with a breast-work. With regard to Fisher proper I have some suggestions to make. One hundred negroes ought to be sent to Lamb from other works to commence the redoubt and its communications. Two of the faces of the

redoubt should be long for well-sustained musketry fire, the north and east. The east flanking the front of Fisher should, if the ground permit, have its prolongation on or so near the river as to make enfilade difficult. Though this would make the flanking angle obtuse, it would not be a disadvantage; the north face in like manner making an obtuse angle ought to have its prolongation on some part of the bar shoals to render enfilade more distant from seaward. With the exception of perhaps one heavy gun I think the armament of the redoubt should be field pieces and Whitworths, with the carronades used as mortars. Please make any suggestions about these different points and about Ramseur that occur to you.

Very respectfully, yours,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., November 12, 1864.

General W. N. PENDLETON, *Army of Northern Virginia:*

GENERAL: I have to thank you for your letter of the 5th instant, submitting with your recommendation the abstract of a bill for the organization of the artillery of the service, drawn after consultation with General Lee, and in conformity substantially with his views. I am always grateful to receive such suggestions and to have the benefit of the experience and judgment of generals in the field on all subjects, but especially those of military organization. I regret, however, after examination and consultation, not to recognize the necessity of legislation to the extent you propose, and prefer, before commending the bill to the consideration of Congress (through its military committees) to explain to you my views. In nearly all essential particulars the bill only embodies in law and makes permanent the present organization (under the orders of the commanding general, sanctioned by the Department). Now, as this has already been done in our army by regulation, it may be extended and made uniform in all, as well by general orders of the Department as by law. In this there are decided advantages, as the whole subject will remain more free from modification and amendment as experience of the needs of the service may dictate. Organization suited for the large armies in the field may and will probably prove by no means so well adapted to smaller forces operating separately or in departments where the main duties are of defense at important cities or posts. Besides, under the system of the Provisional Army, as soon as any organizations are made by law permanent all the officers become fixed and attached to them, and cannot, except by temporary and disturbing assignments, be removed from them. So, also, with the companies, and thus advantages of transfer or selection, either of batteries or officers for special service, or as other considerations rendered advisable, would be lost. The inconveniences in these respects of the proposed legislation have been recognized by you in the provisos and powers inserted in the bill, but why first fetter the organization by law only by the same law to provide for freeing them. There is by the bill some difference made in the rank and number of the officers, but as the field officers are, as now, made to depend on the number of guns in relation to them, I see no occasion for legislation. Full authority, too, already exists in the Department to appoint commissaries, quartermasters, and even chaplains, as you propose. A special adjutant cannot be appointed, but one of the lieuten-

ants of each battalion can be assigned, and there really seems to me a decided advantage that the adjutant be in the line rather than on the staff. It is not to be expected that a man of talent and ambition will be content to be shelved by a staff appointment with the rank of lieutenant. By assignment the best talent among the lieutenants may at all times be commanded, and yet the acting adjutant have the stimulus of expected promotion. The only point on which I think legislation is really needed is in allowing higher rank to the generals of artillery. Major-generals, at least, should be assignable to artillery service, or major-generals of artillery be directly appointed. I would prefer the former, but will cheerfully recommend either plan. I hope there will be no serious difficulty in obtaining proper legislation on that point. I shall be happy if further reflection induces accordance of views between us.

Very truly, yours,

JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 12, 1864.

Captain HAWKS, *Engineer Department, Sugar Loaf:*

CAPTAIN: I sent you a drawing for Fort Ramseur. Already, I shall have to modify it. Not having a plat of the ground, I designed it in general only. The north front ought to be held at the same height and thickness of parapet as the sea front, and the bastion northwest to be increased, especially on the flank. I will indicate these alterations to you when I come down. A light line of infantry breast-works ought to be put up, stretching on the swell of the land, or about 300 yards from the beach, from Iverson's lines to cover that part of the woods he laid bare of trees. That point might be chosen for a landing. Call Colonel Jackson's attention to orders prohibiting trees from being cut inside the camp at Sugar Loaf. The abatis on the outer slopes should not be used for firewood. All that should be cut from the woods outside.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 12, 1864.

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER, *Commanding, &c., Goldsborough:*

GENERAL: The major-general commanding directs me to communicate to you the following information, received to-day from our most reliable scout, under date of the 11th instant, as follows:

Enemy have re-enforced at New Berne; to what extent is not known, but thought to be limited as yet. General Palmer has just returned to New Berne from Fortress Monroe. One of General Grant's aides visited New Berne and remained three days. Yankees speak freely of a combined land and naval attack on Wilmington. Indications of preparation for a cavalry raid are not wanting, but destination not known. The major-general commanding directs me to say that he is of the opinion that an attempt will be made on the railroad by cavalry via Kinston, simultaneously with the attack on this place.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. S. FAIRLY,
Aide-de-Camp.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 271. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, November 14, 1864.*

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II. The Thirtieth Georgia Battalion (Lieut. Col. Andrew Young), with the addition of the four companies raised under authority of the War Department where the conscript act could not be enforced, will constitute the Eleventh Regiment Georgia Cavalry.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 14, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Army of Northern Virginia:

COLONEL: By direction of Lieutenant-General Longstreet I have the honor to state to you for the attention of the commanding general that Major-General Pickett reports about 100 men from his command in the guard-house charged with the crime of desertion. He accounts for this state of things by the fact that every man sentenced to be shot for desertion in his division for the past two months has been reprieved.

I have the honor to be, colonel, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

OSMAN LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
November 18, 1864.

Respectfully submitted for the information of the Secretary of War. Desertion is increasing in the army notwithstanding all my efforts to stop it. I think a rigid execution of the law is [*sic*] in the end. The great want in our army is firm discipline.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
November 19, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to honorable Secretary of War for consideration.

By order, &c.:

W. S. BARTON,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Third indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 23, 1864.

Respectfully submitted for the consideration of the President.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

[Fourth indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 29, 1864.

When deserters are arrested they should be tried, and if the sentences are reviewed and remitted that is not a proper subject for the criticism of a military commander.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD MILITARY DISTRICT,
DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTHERN VIRGINIA,
Wilmington, N. C., November 15, 1864.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE, *Governor of North Carolina:*

SIR: As a measure of precaution, recommended by the local commander here, and delayed only until I could be satisfied of its expediency, I have directed the removal of the State salt-works from Masonborough Sound. I am satisfied from concurrent reports that the presence of these operatives in that locality is dangerous to the safety of this place, and that I am, therefore, consulting the true interest of the State in this removal. The men and material are ordered to this place.

I am, Governor, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BRAXTON BRAGG,
General, Commanding.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, November 15, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:

SIR: I deem it my duty to address you in regard to the situation of Wilmington. I have just returned from a visit to the works below that city and find them all in excellent condition; so far as I am able to judge there seems to be nothing wanting but troops. If attacked in strong force I humbly conceive that its capture is inevitable, unless strengthened by at least two brigades of veteran troops. The militia assembled, and to assemble there, I fancy will be totally inadequate to resist a land attack in the rear of Fort Fisher, which seems to be the point of real danger. In view of all the facts in the case, of which I presume the commanding general keeps you sufficiently informed, I respectfully suggest that General Lee should spare a few veterans as a nucleus for the raw troops defending Wilmington, notwithstanding the great pressure on his lines. Except for the moral effect involved in losing our capital, I cannot see that Richmond itself is of any greater importance to us now than Wilmington. To leave it entirely in the hands of militia, except the garrison, I deem extremely injudicious.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
Z. B. VANCE.

[First indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 21, 1864.

Secretary of War, for due attention and communication to General Lee.

J. D.

[Second indorsement.]

NOVEMBER 22, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Send copy to General Lee with the President's indorsement. The importance of Wilmington is very great, but I am reluctant to contemplate the consequences which would follow from the loss of the capital or to estimate the relative expediency of endangering either. I submit the propriety of sending more forces to Wilmington to the better judgment of the general commanding in the whole department.

J. A. SEDDON.

[Third indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
November 25, 1864.

Respectfully referred to General R. E. Lee, inviting attention to the foregoing indorsements.

By command of the Secretary of War.

JNO. BLAIR HOGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fourth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
November 30, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

I will send any troops to Wilmington the Secretary may direct. In my opinion troops are as much required here as at Wilmington. It is the want all over the country. The difference between the two places at present is, that Richmond is besieged by an army three times as large as that defending it. There is no enemy as yet on the shores of Wilmington. To attack it, troops must be drawn from elsewhere, when I trust re-enforcements can be sent from the point from which the pressure is relieved. In the meantime, the North Carolina troops, as brave as any in the Confederacy, if all are brought out that can be and properly organized and instructed, are capable of protecting it.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
December 6, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War, asking attention to the indorsement of General Lee upon the inclosed copy of Governor Vance's letter, which was referred to him by direction of the honorable Secretary.

By order:

JNO. BLAIR HOGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
November 15, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

DEAR SIR: Permit me, in acknowledging your kind favor of the 12th instant, to submit some additional considerations in reply to your objections to our proposed bill.

First. You regard such legislation as objectionable, because in the main unnecessary, since the organization asked for already virtually exists in this army by regulation and can be similarly introduced in any other.

Second. It will prove, you apprehend, embarrassing in several respects: First, a system fixed by law allows to the commanding general less freedom in adapting his resources to emergencies; second, a plan suitable for a large army may not be adapted to smaller commands; third, officers attached under law cannot be as freely transferred as the commanding general may desire.

The considerations in reply to both of these objections seem to me to be really decisive. First, as to the necessity of the case, although we have artillery battalions formed under orders of the commanding general, sanctioned by the Department, and although this organization has proved one of the most efficient instrumentalities in our great struggle, the result is attained at the cost of very serious injustice to a large class of most deserving officers; is attended by inconveniences which experience satisfies us ought to be obviated and is liable to depreciation in the future if remedial measures be not adopted. The injustice of which I speak results partly from the fact that the status of artillery officers as now determined by number of guns, eighty for a brigadier, forty for a colonel, twenty-four for a lieutenant-colonel, and sixteen for a major, is entirely disproportioned to their merit and services. A single case may illustrate: The chief of artillery of one of our army corps, although his command in extent, importance, and responsibility greatly exceeds that of any infantry brigadier, must remain a colonel because our roll already has three brigadiers of artillery and we have not four times eighty guns. In like manner, battalion commanders whose commands, admirably managed, in difficulty and importance far surpass ordinary infantry regiments, must remain lieutenant-colonels or majors because we have not a sufficient number of times forty or twenty-four guns to allow of their being rewarded with another grade. In truth, my dear sir, there ought to be more scope for promotion in this arm. Officers painfully feel that they are not fairly estimated, that in spite of noblest service they are often left needlessly far behind their brethren of other arms. This might indeed be remedied in part by reducing the number of guns required for the several grades. But this is not the whole case—our artillery field officers feel that on the present plan they occupy rather a false position; it seems to regard them somewhat as exceptional and almost superfluous, instead of as an essential element of the structure and efficiency of the army. Their arm they know to be of eminent value. Its power they are equally satisfied is greatly enhanced by combination; the significance of its extensive organization they have seen fully proved, and to leave them nearly unrecognized by legal sanction appears to them something like a degradation of their branch of service. There are, besides, others on whom the present plan operates hardly. Every regiment of infantry or cavalry has its own non-commissioned staff provided by law; our artillery battalions as now existing, though imperatively needing such officers, are not allowed them except by temporary detail, without recognized authority. The service cannot but suffer from these things, and especially from the insufficient number of field officers. It not unfrequently now occurs that instead of two field officers to a battalion we cannot under the casualties of service get one; and if, as is sometimes the case, the eldest captain be not efficient for larger command, hazard may ensue which ought not to be permitted.

These, my dear sir, let me assure you, are not matters of speculation or fancy; they are realities seriously felt by some of the best men we have in service, and they seem conclusively to show that some such legislation as that proposed is really called for in justice to our arm and with a view to the best interests of the service. With regard, in the second place, to embarrassments involved in applying law to this organization, first, that the general cannot arrange detachments as readily as he may wish, the breaking of batteries has rarely been found necessary during the past two years, nor could there be difficulty in doing it if necessary were batteries fully legalized. The same great

principle of military control under which a commanding general can send infantry or cavalry companies, regiments, brigades, &c., where he deems it necessary, must, of course, apply to artillery organizations of whatever kind, and besides, as you observe, we expressly guard this point in our bill. General Lee would undoubtedly have commented unfavorably on this feature of the plan had it constituted, in his judgment, a real objection. Second, that what may suit a large army may not be adapted to smaller commands. This the bill also provides for; it is not mandatory, only permissive, each case can be arranged according to its own conditions. Third, officers assigned under law become inconvenient fixtures. There is undoubtedly an evil here, though we guard against it by a clause in the bill, and besides whatever be the evil it pertains equally to the infantry and cavalry regiments, brigades, &c., yet the advantages of a definite legal system for them have been found greatly to overbear the disadvantages suggested; and so it would prove for similar reasons in the artillery.

These views, my dear sir, I submit with kind candor yet with sincere deference. Impartial observers like yourself, surveying processes from a position allowing wider range of view, can often detect errors which escape the notice of those whose attention is more occupied with details; but in case of this nature, where all the chief officers of an arm, under frequent appeals from those of highest authority associated with them, concur in recommending a specific arrangement as well tested by experience and approved in their judgment; and when that recommendation is enforced by the deliberate approval of so rigidly careful a judge as General Lee, I feel that there can be little danger of mistake in asking for the legislation in question as really needed and likely to promote the best interests of the service.

Believe me, dear sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 46. } HDQRS. ARTY. CORPS, ARMY OF N. VA., *November 15, 1864.*

Special Orders, No. 45, of the 3d instant, from these headquarters, is hereby revoked, and Major Owen will again until further orders report to Col. R. L. Walker, chief of Third Corps artillery.

By command of General Pendleton:

D. D. PENDLETON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

Memorandum.

First. A scout from New Berne reports we are to be attacked by a land force under General Weitzel, landing on the sound to the east and south of us, and attacking Fort Fisher in the rear. A successful lodgment closes the port. We have no means now of resisting it. Not 1,000 men outside of the forts, and not a battalion which has ever been under fire. They would make no resistance whatever to a landing, covered by the heavy metal of the enemy's gun-boats. That landing and lodgment once made and the harbor is lost, which is the great object of the enemy's expedition.

Second. The reserves are undisciplined and uninstructed. Officered from their own number, they are very inefficient. A proper commander is needed. I applied to General Lee; he refers me to General Holmes, and General Holmes says he has none to spare. The circle is squared, but the troops still remain without a commander.

Third. It is not very encouraging to await an attack from an expedition, thoroughly organized of veterans, and have nothing but home guards, reserves, and untried artillery to meet them.

Fourth. The navy here is a nuisance. All the drunkenness and rowdyism that I have seen, and there is much of it, has been by naval men. Garroting and robbery are not uncommon, and are invariably traced to them. They all remain up at the town of Wilmington instead of being down at the mouth of the river, where they could do effective service as picket guards and on boat duty, especially in saving Government property by wrecking, &c., a duty now devolved on soldiers who have more than they can attend to in defending, guarding, and building works. I am informed they receive more than double the soldier's ration, whilst doing no duty, and great complaint arises and collisions even occur. Indeed, the two services are very hostile, and if the navy cannot be put on duty it would be better to remove them.

The recent codfish expeditions are farcical.

Foregoing submitted by me from General Bragg to President November 15, 1864.

JNO. B. SALE,
Military Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 17, 1864.

Brig. Gen. M. W. GARY, *Commanding Cavalry Brigade:*

The scouts of the Signal Corps have informed General Lee that the Eleventh Pennsylvania Cavalry and the First New York Mounted Rifles, both of Kautz's cavalry division, have gone to the south side of the James to a point between Portsmouth and Suffolk. General Longstreet wishes you to inform yourself of the truth of this report. Wood's battalion will remain under your command, and you will be charged with its care and attention to the duties it is now performing. If any of your scouts are on the south side (General Lee reports two belonging to this side of the river) you will recall them.

I am, general, your most obedient servant,

OSMAN LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1. WILMINGTON, N. C., *November 17, 1864.*

I. I assume the command of the Department of North Carolina, as defined in Special Orders, No. 269, paragraph XXIV, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, November 11, 1864.

II. Major-General Whiting and Brigadier-General Baker will continue the territorial commands heretofore exercised by them, and make their reports to these headquarters.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

[NOVEMBER 17, 1864.]

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General, Richmond:

I see no special need for a brigadier of artillery here. I asked for one to command seven battalions of reserves, a good disciplinarian and instructor. General Lee has sent Colonel Connally with North Carolina volunteers.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

[NOVEMBER 17, 1864.]

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Military Secretary, Richmond:

Colonel Anderson should inspect the commissary, ordnance, and medical departments in Richmond, and in the order named ascertain my status. See my letter of 14th before asking any order. It may be that I am relieved.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

[NOVEMBER 18, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting capture of enemy's picket-line on Pickett's front, see Part I, p. 854.]

TORPEDO BUREAU,
Richmond, Va., November 18, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

SIR: I have the honor to state that notwithstanding the vigilance of the enemy we have managed, from time to time, to transfer to their rear torpedoes; but many abortive attempts thus to destroy their shipping before I came here—but one success, I believe, in the James River—have rendered them so watchful that I almost despair of accomplishing anything that way now, with the obstructions in the river and guards to their vessels. It has had one good effect, however, in causing the enemy to watch the river-banks with thousands of their soldiers, who might otherwise be employed against us. We have relied somewhat necessarily upon the "Singer torpedoes," which were located at spots visited by the boats of the enemy, but, as before reported to the engineer bureau, with no adequate results, leading to a doubt of their efficiency in salt water where barnacles and young oysters abound. Our operations have been mainly directed to the James, Pamunkey, and Chickahominy Rivers, and some attempts made in Appomattox with torpedoes. When I left Richmond for Wilmington, in the fall of 1862, we commenced planting submarine mortar batteries in the James, and it is much to be regretted that the officer who relieved me in the submarine defenses did not continue their use, as these, the enemy report, being of a nature they could not remove, kept them out of Charleston harbor. Our efforts for the defense of this place have been directed lately to planting subterra shells between our lines of abatis at our works commanded by General Barton. We have planted at this date 1,298 subterra shells so protected by tin covers inverted over them as thoroughly to shield them from the effects of rain and increase the area of the primer, and might thus be put at the bottom of the river without deteriorating their efficacy. For the protection of our own men, immediately in rear of each shell, at a distance

of three feet, is planted a small red flag on a staff three feet long to indicate where it is, which is to be removed at night-fall or if the enemy approach, to be replaced as soon thereafter as necessary. There are pathways made for egress and ingress of our soldiers through these flags and shells indicated by longer streamers, and is intended to be surmounted at night by lanterns with lamp or candle having three darkened sides, and one glass covered with red flannel, as soon as they can be made; the pathway between two of these being safe at night, and the light easily extinguished at any moment. These shells now seem to be popular with our officers and are being planted as fast as our limited means will permit, say about 100 per diem. From reports of deserters they are rapidly demoralizing the enemy. Unfortunately in planting one of these shells a few days since one of our best men thus employed, William S. Deupree, accidentally fell upon one and was immediately killed in full sight of the foe, who, hearing the explosion, was attracted to the spot, observing the effects and what was doing.

Inclosed is a diagram of the position of the subterra shells at our lines, which it is believed the enemy will not attempt to pass, and will enable us to subtract most of our infantry protection from our batteries of artillery for service in the field.

WILMINGTON, N. C.

I regret being obliged to say that our submarine defenses of this place in Cape Fear River have not been such as desired, arising not from any fault of the commanding officer, but rather the want of proper operatives and means. When in command of Wilmington, in the summer and fall 1862, I commenced a system of torpedo defenses, but could make but little progress with the yellow fever all around us, in my office and among my staff; yet it seems, after I left, the operations were not continued for the want of proper workmen. From time to time experts or means were forwarded there by my order from this city, from Mobile and Augusta, still it wanted something more for success, and but lately I have sent there officers, men, and torpedoes, which promise fair now to checkmate the enemy, should he attempt to enter that fort by either the old or new inlet. I have also sent Dr. Fretwell, an expert with Singer torpedoes, to Brigadier-General Baker at Goldsborough, who may be able to effect something in Tar River at or near Washington.

CHARLESTON, S. C.

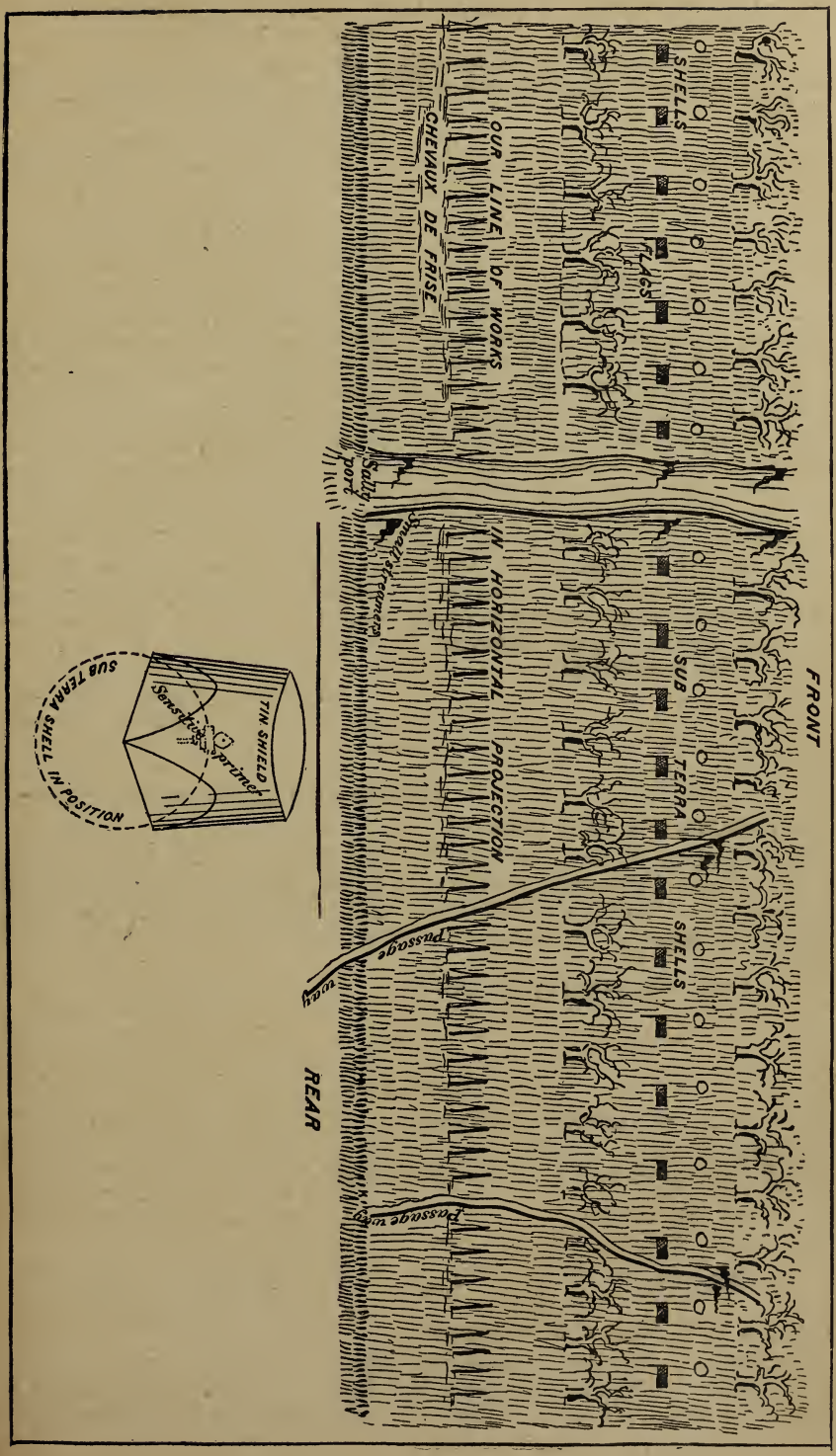
The lamented death of Capt. E. Pliny Bryan, by yellow fever, our most successful operator in the Saint John's River, Florida, where he destroyed four vessels of the enemy, by our own torpedoes taken from Charleston, he having lately had charge of the submarine operations in the harbor, has necessarily paralyzed our efforts, and no report has been yet received of operations there during the past month. Here our system had been mostly carried out, our means and efforts most successful, but an efficient engineer officer is now greatly needed there to operate with torpedoes, to assist Captain Simon who now has charge, but whose forte rather lies with the subterra shells.

MOBILE, ALA.

For submarine operations here I respectfully inclose the report of Lieutenant Andrews, in charge.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

G. J. RAINS,
Brigadier-General, Superintendent.


SHELLS
FLAGS
CHEVAUX DE FRISE
OUR LINE of WORKS
Sally port
Traverses
IN HORIZONTAL PROJECTION
SUB TERRA
SHELLS
Passage
FRONT
REAR
Passage
SUB TERRA SHELL IN POSITION
Sensitive Spring
TIN SHIELD

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Wilmington, November 18, 1864.*

I. The territory in the Department of North Carolina north of the Roanoke River is added to the district commanded by Brig. Gen. L. S. Baker.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 20, 1864.

Flag-Officer PINCKNEY,
Comdg. C. S. Naval Forces, North Carolina, Present:

FLAG OFFICER: I have received information from my picket-line that the enemy's troops sailed from Beaufort two days ago, the dispatch being dated the 19th instant. If this is reliable and the movement is intended for this place, they may be off here now, and prevented by the state of the weather yesterday and to-day from making the necessary observations for landing. If the weather had been clear for the past fifty-six hours, and it be true that their troops have sailed, I should conclude that, as they have not appeared, the movement is intended elsewhere. Be that as it may, a short time will suffice to decide the point, and in the meanwhile I beg that you will hold your force ready to co-operate in the defense as far as possible. I shall have to ask your aid, should it be necessary to place the rope and other obstructions on the rip. I will keep you informed.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *November 21, 1864.*

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE:

GOVERNOR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, relative to the defenses of Wilmington, and to inform you that proper attention shall be given to your suggestions, which the Secretary has been directed to communicate to General R. E. Lee.

Very respectfully and truly,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

PETERSBURG, VA., *November 21, 1864.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:

Dispatch just received. Last train for to-day has departed. If nothing prevents will go up in the morning.

R. E. LEE.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS,
November 21, 1864.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: Your telegram of yesterday is received, and orders have been given to Generals Hoke and Kershaw to be ready to re-enforce on the south side. If General Grant is issuing rations for twelve days, his

move, in all probability, will be for Burkeville. If he goes there, he will take his best troops, leaving his lines but weakly guarded, and it seems to me that our best plan will be to try and get what he leaves behind, watching his main force with our cavalry. To do this, I don't know but that it might be better to begin by taking the force that he leaves behind on this side. I believe that we might get around his works on this side, and capture most of the force that he will leave. This entire force might then be moved to the south side and united with the troops already there for further operations. If the character of his work in front of Petersburg is such as to enable us to operate with facility after turning them, it may be better to take these three divisions over, leaving General Ewell's command and one or two of General Pickett's brigades to hold our lines on this side. After the move begins, I think General Pickett will be able to hold his line with two brigades, and the other two, with General Ewell's forces, will be sufficient for this side. It is essential for the successful execution of either of these propositions that General Early shall keep us advised of any effort on the part of the enemy to re-enforce from the army in the Valley. If he is in condition to threaten the enemy's force in the Valley, it will be better.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
November 21, 1864.

General WADE HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry, &c.:

GENERAL: I have your letter* of the 21st. * * * I have been expecting some movement of Grant in connection with Sherman's in Georgia, and late reports strengthen my expectations. You must, therefore, be careful and ready, and make every arrangement to check the enemy, delay his movement, and press him to develop his strength. I will be happy to see you, when convenient, on this and other matters.

Very respectfully,

R. E. LEE,
General.

[NOVEMBER 21, 1864.]

General WADE HAMPTON:

GENERAL: I shall not be able to meet you to-day. What I wished to see you about was the practicability of striking Grant a blow, either this side or the north side of James River, on the supposition I could draw Early down to aid. Can a vulnerable point be found without having to pass over their breast-works, which, as far as I can judge, are well arranged and strongly fortified, and composed of several lines and batteries. You must not mention this to anybody. Give me your views and try to ascertain the way to strike.

Very truly,

R. E. LEE,
General.

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*Not found.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 277. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, November 22, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

II. Company D, Thirty-fifth Battalion Virginia Cavalry, is hereby disbanded. The members of this company are permitted to join such other companies of the battalion as they may select; but failing to make such selection, they will be promptly distributed among the other companies of the battalion by the brigade general commanding.

III. The First Battalion North Carolina Reserves, with the unattached company, commanded by Capt. W. R. Williams, which is hereby added thereto, will constitute the Second Regiment North Carolina Reserves.

IV. The ten companies comprising the Fourth, Seventh, and Eighth Battalions of North Carolina Reserves, as organized under the orders of Lieutenant-General Holmes, will constitute the Third Regiment North Carolina Reserves.

V. The organization of the Eighth Battalion of North Carolina Reserves (Millard's), consisting of three companies, is hereby reorganized [recognized] and made the action of the War Department. It will hereafter be designated as the First Battalion North Carolina Reserves.

VI. The First, Second, and Third Regiments, with the First Battalion North Carolina Reserves, will constitute a brigade.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS, *November 22, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: Your letter of yesterday is received. My idea was, that the move, if begun on our right, should be to turn the enemy's works and push on vigorously for his depot. This move could be made, I think, with a corps, and would drive the enemy from his works as it progressed. It would have the advantage of producing the impression that we were moving to meet the grand move of the enemy, and would probably be safer, if we should be so unfortunate as not to attain the success that we may reasonably expect. In case that this is adopted and I should make the move, it will probably be better to leave General Kershaw here, as his transportation is not here, and his troops are not yet in prime condition. I should then have General Pickett, if possible; if not, General B. R. Johnson's division. I have great confidence, however, in the success of the operations, if begun on this side and the south side at the same time. If this is chosen, I will only need one of Pickett's brigades to hold part of my line, whilst I turn the enemy's position with the three divisions. If you determine to attack the enemy's lines in front of Petersburg I think that you could get them more readily by driving his pickets in the night before making the attack and throwing up during the night a series of French [cavaliers], which would enable your sharpshooters to keep down the enemy's gunners and his infantry behind his works. I send this by Major Fairfax, that he may see you and ascertain whether it will be practicable for me to meet you before your return to Petersburg.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *November 22, 1864.*

General B. BRAGG,
Wilmington, N. C.:

If the condition of affairs will permit I wish you to proceed via Columbia to Augusta, to direct efforts to assemble and employ all available force against the enemy now advancing into Southeastern Georgia. General Hardee and perhaps Taylor and Beauregard are at Macon; Brigadier-General Fry, and perhaps Chesnut, at Augusta. General Lee will telegraph to you.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

WILMINGTON, *November 22, 1864—9 p. m.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Richmond:

I will leave by first train, but shall carry but few troops, most of these here being reserves which cannot be taken from the State.

B. BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Major-General HOKE,
Commanding Division:

I am directed by General Longstreet to notify you that an early advance of the enemy is expected, and to impress upon you the necessity of having our lines worked upon as much as possible, and the picket-line strengthened by abatis, &c.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Kershaw, Field, and Gary.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Commanding Division:

General Longstreet directs that you extend your picket-line to the right, so as to reach a point near Battery Gregg, and thereby relieve a part of General Ewell's picket force. General Ewell's troops are required at present to be on picket every other day, and the duty is too severe upon them. If you cannot well perform this extra picket duty, General Field will be ordered to move up to his right and relieve a portion of your left, and General Lee also to extend a little to his left.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD,
Commanding Division:

General Gary has been instructed to keep a strong picket force at White's Tavern, on the Charles City road, connecting with the line of pickets down White Oak Swamp, covering the Williamsburg road. If any attempt should be made by the enemy to cross the swamp where they did before General Gary has been instructed to notify you, when you will re-enforce him by a sufficiently strong infantry force, and, if necessary, artillery to make enough resistance to develop the strength and intentions of the enemy. General Gary scouts frequently down the Williamsburg road, which is, however, covered by his pickets.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General GARY,
Commanding Cavalry, North Side:

Colonel Bass, commanding Texas Brigade, reports that on the evening of the 21st two mounted scouts of the enemy were seen on the Charles City road, in full view of and not more than half a mile from our breast-works.

I had supposed your pickets were as low down as White's Tavern. General Longstreet wishes you to have a strong picket force at that point connecting with the line of pickets down White Oak Swamp. If the enemy should make demonstrations or attempt to force their way through, notify General Field, after making all the resistance you can, who will send an infantry force to your assistance, and, if necessary, some artillery. The object will be to develop the enemy's intention. General Field has received his instructions. You will send scouting parties out on the Williamsburg road frequently.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 3. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, November 23, 1864.

I. By direction of General Bragg the undersigned hereby assumes command of the Department of North Carolina.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *November 23, 1864.*

General B. BRAGG,
Augusta, Ga.:

The law which restricts reserve troops to service within their State has been suspended for sixty days. I did not suppose those at Wilmington could be spared. You will exercise a large discretion in the disposition of the forces which may be made available.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *November 23, 1864.*

General HÉBERT,
Fort Fisher:

The movement is ordered by the President and General [Lee], the former ordering General Bragg to use his judgment, the latter directing him to take all available troops from Wilmington. I have directed Jackson to send Adams' battery into Fort Fisher to Colonel Lamb. Send over the remaining company of the regiment from Fort Campbell. Sherman appears to have his cavalry raiding on both flanks, he moving between. I have ordered the Sixty-eighth North Carolina (Hinton's) to come down the railroad at once. Will use it to replace the detachments until they return. I am commanding the department till Bragg returns. He says he will send the men back as soon as possible.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: From the report of scouts received yesterday it seems that the Tenth Corps is still on this side, or if it went over to the south side has returned. The information, too, seems to indicate the arrival of the Sixth Corps from the Valley. Under these circumstances, it will be necessary for me to force the enemy to develop the extent of his move on this side before making any move of my troops to the south side. This I shall do, of course, as rapidly as possible. I am going to have the roads leading from White Oak Swamp to the Williamsburg road well broken up with subsoil plows. I think that the enemy will then have to build a corduroy there as he moves. He surely will, if I can have a good gentle rain after the roads are thoroughly plowed up. Can't you apply this idea to advantage on your side, on the roads that General Grant will be obliged to travel if he goes to Burkeville? I don't know, however, but that it would be better for us to go to Burkeville and block the roads behind him. If the roads that General Sherman must travel to get to Charleston or Savannah can be deeply plowed and the trees felled over them I think that General Sherman will not be able to get to his destination in fifty days, as the Northern papers expect, and it is not thought to be possible that he can collect more than fifty days' rations before reaching the coast. If parties are properly organized I think that they might destroy or injure all of the roads, so as to break down General Sherman's animals and result in the capture of most of his forces.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
November 24, 1864.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your dispatch of to-day is received. The Tenth and Eighteenth Corps are on this side, and possibly the Sixth. I think that it would be

well not to move any of the troops from here till we discover what the enemy's designs are. When he moves on your side I think he will on this flank also, and his display upon your flank may be for the purpose of fixing our attention there.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 24, 1864.

Lieutenant-Colonel JOHNSON,
Engineer, &c.:

General Longstreet desires me to say to you that he thinks the dams sufficiently completed now for you to leave them for the present, and use your whole negro force in running a light field line down White Oak Swamp and parallel with it. He wishes you to locate your line in the morning as advantageously as possible, so as to cover the road leading across the swamp from Mrs. Hobson's and also the road leading up the swamp on the east side. When you have it located put the negro force to work on it. It is not intended for it to be a very heavy line, but only a light field-work.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, [*November 24, 1864*].

Major-General JONES:

General Bragg has gone to Augusta. Has taken every available man—half my garrison.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 71. } HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, *November 24, 1864.*

I. In accordance with orders from army headquarters, Brig. Gen. P. M. B. Young will proceed to Augusta, Ga., in charge of a detachment of men to procure horses. He will report to the commanding officer of that place to assist in its defense. He will collect and rendezvous at Augusta all men from the command now absent in Georgia and South Carolina. He will use his men as long as is necessary for the defense of Augusta or such other point in Georgia as may be deemed by the officer commanding in that locality indispensable, and when the present emergency has passed he will allow the men to go, under suitable officers, to their homes to procure horses and return to their commands in Virginia in as short a time as practicable. When he has made these dispositions he will report in person at these headquarters.

By command of General Hampton:

H. B. McCLELLAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
November 26, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding:

GENERAL: Your letter* of the 24th is just received. A deserter from the Tenth Corps came to us on the 23d and reports that corps on this side. I do not feel confident of holding the line on this side with Kershaw's division and a brigade of Pickett's division, as long as the enemy has two corps here to operate with against me. I hope, however, that we may be able, when he begins his movement, to judge with greater accuracy as to what we may best do. If the enemy leaves but one corps here I think that we may turn his extreme left, after his column has passed on toward Burkeville, with reasonable hope of great results. If, however, his move is for the South Side Railroad I think that it would be better to operate defensively on the south side and offensively on this side, particularly so if the enemy should move out and attempt to operate against us, as he, in all probability, will do. There are five deserters from the Tenth Corps just in. They confirm the report that the corps has not been moved from this side, and they confirm the information that you have in regard to the troops that were landed on the 17th.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

CIRCULAR.] HDQRS. DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, N. C., November 26, 1864.

Commanding officers at Masonborough, Sugar Loaf, and Smithville, in Third Military District, will aid Major Davis to carry out his instructions as to election of field officers in the reserves. The field officers are to be elected by the company officers. For this purpose the officers will be assembled without warning, paper provided, and their votes taken at once, and without their leaving the place of assembly. Electioneering will not be permitted, as unnecessary and demoralizing.

By command of Major-General Whiting:

JAS. H. HILL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. P. ALEXANDER,
Commanding, and Chief of Artillery:

General Longstreet desires you to procure the Armstrong guns promised you as soon as you possibly can. He wishes to use them on the Charles City road in case the enemy should attempt to cross the White Oak Swamp. He thinks the timber is now being cut down, so as to give them a long and clear sweep.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

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*Not found.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW,
Commanding Division:

General Longstreet desires you to have a second line of abatis made in front of your line of works.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. M. W. GARY,
Commanding Cavalry Brigade:

General Longstreet desires you to make a line of rifle-pits along the crest of the hill where the work for the battery is overlooking the White Oak Swamp bridge; also to fell every tree which can be made to fall across the road down in the bottom near the bridge. There are two crossings over the swamp between White Oak Bridge and Fisher's Ford—one-half a mile and the other three-quarters of a mile from the bridge. You will direct the logs at these crossings to be piled up and mixed with dry wood and burnt.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 27, 1864.

Brig. Gen. M. W. GARY,
Commanding Cavalry:

General Longstreet directs me to inform you that he does not wish the road leading from the White Oak Bridge to the Williamsburg road obstructed, but that the road below that must be obstructed and pickets kept there.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 282. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, November 28, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XXXII. Brig. Gen. Bradley T. Johnson is temporarily assigned to the command of the post at Salisbury, N. C., and of the prisoners of war confined at that place. He will report to Brig. Gen. W. M. Gardner, commanding, &c.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ORDNANCE BUREAU,
Richmond, November 28, 1864.

General WADE HAMPTON,
Commanding Cavalry, Army of Northern Virginia:

GENERAL: Desirous as I am to add to the efficiency of the cavalry of the Confederate Army, the propriety of importing improved weapons has suggested itself to me, and arrangements had already been made for their purchase and introduction. As the necessity appears to be urgent, however, it might be advisable to send abroad an officer charged specially with the selection and purchase of the arms required for this branch of the service, and I write to ask that you will designate a suitable person (you might name one or more for selection), a cavalry officer, one of experience, to be charged with this special duty.

I am, respectfully,

J. GORGAS,
Chief of Ordnance.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
November 28, 1864.

Capt. S. D. SHANNON,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

CAPTAIN: A deserter, who came in on General Ransom's line last night, states that during last week General Grant visited the Federal picket-line on the City Point road, and that after his examination he was heard to say that it would be an easy matter to carry our line. The deserter also stated that there was a rumor among some of the commissioned officers that an attack was to be made on our line somewhere between the Crater and the river. He stated that their men are badly sheltered; that they had not constructed winter quarters, and that their line of works was in bad condition. He did not think that the enemy were mining our works on Hare's Hill or any other place. This evening, between 5 and 6 o'clock, the enemy fired one ball from Battery No. 1 into the city, the first for several weeks.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, VA., *November 29, 1864.*

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

General Pickett reports that three monitors and land batteries of the enemy engaged battery at Howlett's this morning. One of the monitors was struck several times by our guns. Two have withdrawn. No casualties on our side reported.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

General Lee's telegram, concerning movements of troops to his left, just received. Will be on the alert. Our scouts have reported no movements in our front as yet.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Colonel TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

General Pickett reported yesterday that three brigades were moving from the south side to this side.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Lieutenant-General EWELL,
Commanding:

General Lee has just telegraphed that columns of the enemy, accompanied by artillery and wagons, have been passing for hours to-day in this direction; also two trains crowded with troops in the same direction. He wishes us to be kept on the alert and prepared for whatever may occur. General Pickett reports this afternoon an accession of troops in his front and supposes they have come from the north side. General Longstreet desires to know whether there is any indication of a diminution of forces in your front. If they attack you strongly General Hoke will assist you.

Respectfully, general, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. P. ALEXANDER,
Chief of Artillery:

General Lee has just telegraphed us that columns of the enemy, accompanied by artillery and wagons, have been passing for hours to-day in this direction; also two trains crowded with troops in the same direction. You had better be on the alert. We may expect an attack at any time.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 29, 1864.

Major-General FIELD:

General Lee has just telegraphed us that columns of the enemy, accompanied by artillery and wagons, have been passing in this direction all day; also two trains crowded with troops in the same direction. You will hold your command on the alert for anything which may occur. Caution your pickets to exercise extreme vigilance, and endeavor, by

means of scouts, to inform yourself promptly of any move of the enemy. Have your picket-lines where they have abatis to whip back any line of battle.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Generals Hoke and Kershaw and Colonel Logan.)

General KERSHAW:

Send up quickly any information you obtain

General HOKE:

Send up quickly any information you may obtain. In case the attack is made on General Ewell extend your line to Fort Gilmer, and be ready to extend aid to General Ewell if the attack is formidable. Have the picket-line where they have abatis to whip back any line of battle.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 29, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia, Petersburg:

GENERAL: Under orders of the President and yourself, General Bragg took away, to meet the emergency in Augusta, one-half the garrisons of Fort Fisher and Smith's Island, together with half the supporting force at Sugar Loaf. On the 27th I received a telegram to forward the extra duty men, retained at work here, belonging to the battalions which had been taken. Inadequate as the force here was previous to the movement, and now reduced one-half, to forward the men reported on extra duty would be to stop everything here at once, while the number added in Augusta would be insignificant. Considering that while absent from this command General Bragg's order should be approved by you, I telegraphed that under the circumstances I must hear from you before complying. In explanation, I have to say that the extra duty reported is not what may be called quartermaster duty proper, but that comprised in the defense and defensive works going on, and as necessary as the presence of the men at their guns, viz, in the engineer department, the construction of platforms, magazines, revetments, &c.; in the ordnance, gun carriages, care, and especially service of magazines night and day; the crews engaged in river transportation, in boat service, and boat picket duty, and the signaling indispensable between the forts. This is simply in explanation, as I am satisfied under the circumstances, if understood, the order would not be enforced, and is intended for men doing duty away from their commands, as cooks, teamsters, clerks, &c., whose places can be supplied. I send you the inclosed for your information.* For my own part I think attack here will be deferred until Sherman shall have reached the coast, which he seems in a fair way to do, when, with that army and his fleet, the coast will be pretty much at his disposal.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

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*Inclosure not found.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, November 29, 1864.

Colonel LIPSCOMB,
Commanding Masonborough:

COLONEL: You are charged with the command from the Virginia Creek lines, twenty miles to the eastward, to the ground occupied by Colonel Jackson's pickets south of you along Masonborough Sound.

First. Establish the headquarters of your regiment near Masonborough, selecting a good camp for the health of horses and men, shelter, water, supply of fuel and easy access. To this end make the camp for the present temporary, and reconnoiter the coast thoroughly from Sugar Loaf upward by yourself and your officers, for the purpose of finding the best localities and becoming familiar with the sounds, creeks, and roads.

Second. One company should always be on picket duty at Virginia Creek; with this you can communicate by telegraph. Its commanding officer should forward dispatches from the cavalry in front and maintain the courier line from Golding Place, on the Onslow road, to the city.

Third. Your infantry pickets will be maintained on the system established by Colonel Tansill, and you will, in addition, post cavalry vedettes along the sound. Your cavalry pickets should communicate with Colonel Jackson's outposts. Frequent patrols should be sent out by night. They should watch for persons endeavoring to communicate with enemy, arrest all persons moving about the lines or coast without proper authority, observe suspicious lights, put a stop to all salt-works, which keep up fires or work at night.

Fourth. Give special attention to the discipline and drill of your whole command, efficiency and care of horses, both artillery and cavalry, and especially to the behavior of the men in camp. Depredations and straggling about the country away from camps is strictly forbidden, and all officers will be held accountable. Permission to visit the city will be given only by yourself and in writing.

Fifth. Make regular reports by telegraph every morning of condition, whether vessels are off, movements of enemy, blockade-running vessels, or anything unusual.

Sixth. Detail your officers, successively in twos or threes, to find out the country, roads, and communications between the Northeast River, city, and coast.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

RICHMOND, VA., *November 30, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE, *Petersburg, Va.:*

General Bragg telegraphs on 29th instant that General Jones reports that two gun-boats, with transports, are landing troops on Broad River; four gun-boats, with transports and barges, at junction of Pocotaligo with Broad River. He adds, as this movement relieves Wilmington, might not some of the North Carolina reserves be sent to General Jones? All which is communicated for your information and for such action on the proposition as you may deem advisable.

By order of the President:

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

PETERSBURG, *November 30, 1864.*

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

The troops landing on Broad River must be those operating in Charleston harbor, conveying provisions to Sherman, and should be opposed by Jones. They have not gone from here, to the best of my knowledge. I do not see how Wilmington is thereby released. From Whiting's report of the troops taken by Bragg I do not think more can be spared from Wilmington. The roads that will be used by Sherman from Savannah River to Pocotaligo should be blocked and the fords guarded.

R. E. LEE.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 284. ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, November 30, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

XXV. The brigade known as H. H. Walker's Virginia brigade, Army of Northern Virginia, is hereby disbanded, and the regiments which compose it will be assigned to other Virginia brigades in that army under the direction of the general commanding.

XXVI. The brigade (Army of Northern Virginia) known as Johnson's old Tennessee brigade is hereby united with Archer's brigade, of Heth's division. The necessary additional orders will be issued from headquarters Army of Northern Virginia.

* * * * * * *

XLIV. In addition to the duties prescribed in paragraph I, Special Orders, No. 236, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, current series, Col. W. A. Parham, Forty-first Regiment Virginia Volunteers, is assigned as commandant of post at Hicksford, Va., to relieve Lieut. Col. J. J. Garnett, who, on being relieved, will proceed, without delay, to headquarters Army of Tennessee, and report to the general commanding for assignment to artillery duty.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
November 30, 1864.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Your telegram is received. You had better send me one of Pickett's brigades as soon as possible, and have a division near the railroad to re-enforce me if necessary. There is no indication of a move against us yet. The enemy's vedettes are so near together that we cannot get within his lines. May not the Ninth Corps have gone off along the coast somewhere? I will advise you as soon as there is any development here.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

Abstract from monthly return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee commanding, for November 30, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Horses.	Guns.
	Officers.	Men.					
First Army Corps (Longstreet):							
Staff	15	.....	.....	15	17	.....	.....
Pickett's division	446	6,176	6,176	7,954	12,052	.....	.....
Field's division	453	4,548	4,548	6,053	11,837	.....	.....
Hoke's division *a*	419	5,273	5,273	6,299	12,022	.....	.....
Kershaw's division	324	3,414	3,414	4,482	10,886	.....	.....
Total	1,657	19,411	19,411	24,803	46,814	.....	.....
Anderson's corps:							
Johnson's division	541	6,504	6,504	8,097	13,299	.....	.....
Second Army Corps (Early):							
Staff	17	.....	.....	17	21	.....	.....
Early's division	146	2,345	2,345	2,980	8,334	.....	.....
Rodes' division	212	2,789	2,789	3,908	12,702	.....	.....
Gordon's division	216	2,662	2,662	3,454	13,764	.....	.....
Wharton's division	123	1,859	1,859	2,471	6,687	.....	.....
Lomax's cavalry division	255	1,846	1,846	2,421	9,351	.....	2
Fitz Lee's cavalry division *b*	69	1,455	1,455	1,756	3,618	.....	.....
Total	1,038	12,956	12,956	17,007	54,477	.....	2
Third Army Corps (Hill):							
Staff	20	.....	.....	20	20	.....	.....
Heth's division	402	4,957	4,957	6,009	12,750	.....	.....
Wilcox's division	428	5,742	5,742	7,072	12,051	.....	.....
Mahone's division	427	4,844	4,844	6,203	12,954	.....	.....
Total	1,277	15,543	15,543	19,304	37,775	.....	.....
First Military District (Wise)	219	2,305	2,305	2,871	4,603	49	8
Provost Guard (Bridgford)	21	219	219	290	366	.....	.....
Cavalry Corps (Hampton):							
Staff	13	.....	.....	13	15	.....	.....
Hampton's division *c*	102	1,506	1,506	2,194	5,030	.....	.....
W. H. F. Lee's division *d*	163	3,605	3,605	4,420	6,146	.....	.....
Dearing's brigade *e*	60	995	995	1,364	2,283	.....	.....
Horse artillery *f*	3	102	102	112	138	.....	.....
Total	341	6,208	6,208	8,103	13,612	.....	.....
Artillery Reserve, &c. (Pendleton):							
Staff	7	8	8	15	18	.....	.....
First Army Corps	104	2,188	2,188	2,512	3,271	754	92
Second Army Corps	60	923	923	1,179	2,443	317	24
Third Army Corps	133	2,057	2,057	2,481	3,470	652	96
Fourth Army Corps	59	968	968	1,186	1,666	532	51
Total	363	6,144	6,144	7,373	10,868	2,255	263
Grand total	5,457	69,290	69,290	87,848	181,814	2,304	273

a Hoke's division temporarily serving with First Corps.
b Second Brigade not reported—on raid.
c 705 dismounted men.
d 453 dismounted men.
e 127 dismounted men.
f 13 dismounted men,

Strength of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee commanding, November 30, 1864, as shown by inspection reports.

Troops.	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Effective present.	Pieces of artillery.
First Army Corps (Longstreet):					
Pickett's division	6,645	8,034	12,124	7,159	.....
Field's division	4,978	5,977	11,838	4,780	.....
Kershaw's division	3,730	4,470	10,881	3,532	.....
Total	15,353	18,481	34,843	15,471	.....
Second Army Corps—Army Valley District (Early):					
Staff	13	13	.....	.....	.....
Breckinridge's division	1,978	2,388	6,649	1,616	.....
Rodes' division	2,857	3,688	12,454	2,715	.....
Early's division	2,493	3,053	8,268	2,479	.....
Gordon's division	2,856	3,424	13,586	2,598	.....
Total	10,197	12,566	40,957	9,408	.....
Third Army Corps (Hill):					
Mahone's division	5,097	6,115	12,856	5,009	.....
Heth's division	5,185	5,832	12,521	5,136	.....
Wilcox's division	6,159	6,995	12,063	6,098	.....
Total	16,441	18,942	37,440	16,243	.....
Anderson's corps (Anderson):					
Hoke's division	5,629	6,272	12,026	5,658	.....
Johnson's division	7,082	8,092	13,331	6,865	.....
Total	12,711	14,364	25,357	12,523	.....
Cavalry Corps (Hampton):					
Staff	13	13	15	13	.....
W. H. F. Lee's division	3,555	4,196	6,395	2,983	.....
Butler's brigade	635	916	2,760	373	.....
Young's brigade	646	836	2,676	624	.....
Dearing's brigade	1,059	*1,362	2,470	802	.....
Horse Artillery	200	217	289	204	8
Total	6,108	7,540	14,605	4,999	8
First Military District, Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia (Wise).	1,719	1,987	3,454	1,866	.....
Grand total	62,529	73,880	156,656	60,510	8

Guns in the Horse Artillery only accounted for.

*Organization of the Army of Northern Virginia, commanded by General Robert E. Lee, November 30, 1864.**

FIRST ARMY CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. JAMES LONGSTREET.

PICKETT'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE E. PICKETT.

Steuart's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE H. STEUART.

9th Virginia, Col. James J. Phillips.
14th Virginia, Col. William White.
38th Virginia, Col. George K. Griggs.
53d Virginia, Col. William R. Aylett.
57th Virginia, Col. Clement R. Fontaine.

Hunton's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EPPA HUNTON.

8th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Edmund Berkeley.
18th Virginia, Col. Henry A. Carrington.
19th Virginia, Col. Henry Gantt.
28th Virginia, Lieut. Col. William L. Wingfield.
56th Virginia, Col. William E. Green.

* Compiled from inspection reports when not otherwise indicated.

Corse's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. MONTGOMERY D. CORSE.

15th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Emmett M. Morrison.
17th Virginia, Col. Arthur Herbert.
29th Virginia, Col. James Giles.
30th Virginia, Col. Robert S. Chew.
32d Virginia, Col. Edgar B. Montague.

Terry's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM R. TERRY.

1st Virginia, Lieut. Col. Frank H. Langley.
3d Virginia, Col. Joseph Mayo, jr.
7th Virginia, Col. Charles C. Flowerree.
11th Virginia, Capt. John H. Smith.
24th Virginia, Capt. William W. Bentley.

FIELD'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. CHARLES W. FIELD.

Anderson's Brigade

Brig. Gen. GEORGE T. ANDERSON.

7th Georgia, Maj. John F. Kiser.
8th Georgia, Col. John R. Towers.
9th Georgia, Capt. S. A. Jameson.
11th Georgia, Col. Francis H. Little.
59th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Bolivar H. Gee.

Gregg's Brigade.

Col. FREDERICK S. BASS.

3d Arkansas, Lieut. Col. Robert S. Taylor.
1st Texas, Capt. William A. Bedell.
4th Texas, Lieut. Col. Clinton M. Winkler.
5th Texas, Capt W. T. Hill.

Law's Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM F. PERRY.

4th Alabama, Capt. Archibald D. McInnis.
15th Alabama, Capt. F. Key Shaaff.
44th Alabama, Lieut. Col. John A. Jones.
47th Alabama, Capt. Henry C. Lindsey.
48th Alabama, Maj. John W. Wigginton.

Benning's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HENRY L. BENNING.

2d Georgia, Capt. Thomas Chaffin.
15th Georgia, Capt. George A. Pace.
17th Georgia, Lieut. Col. William A. Barden.
20th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Eli M. Seago.

Bratton's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN BRATTON.

1st South Carolina [Volunteers], Col. James R. Hagood.
2d South Carolina [Rifles], Col. Robert E. Bowen.
5th South Carolina, Col. A. Coward.
6th South Carolina, Col. John M. Steedman.
Palmetto Sharpshooters, Col. Joseph Walker.

KERSHAW'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH B. KERSHAW.

Wofford's Brigade.

Col. C. C. SANDERS.

16th Georgia, Maj. John H. Skelton.*
18th Georgia, Col. Joseph Armstrong.
24th Georgia, Col. C. C. Sanders.
3d Georgia Battalion Sharpshooters, Lieut. Col. Nathan L. Hutchins, jr.
Cobb's Legion, Lieut. Col. Luther J. Glenn.*
Phillips Legion, Lieut. Col. Joseph Hamilton.*

Bryan's Brigade.

Col. JAMES P. SIMMS.

10th Georgia, Col. Willis C. Holt.*
50th Georgia, Col. Peter McGlashan.*
51st Georgia, Lieut. Col. James Dickey.
53d Georgia, Lieut. Col. W. F. Hartsfield.

Conner's Brigade.

Col. JOHN D. KENNEDY.

2d South Carolina, Capt. James D. Graham.
3d South Carolina, Capt. John K. G. Nance.
7th South Carolina, Capt. Elijah J. Goggans.
8th South Carolina, Capt. A. T. Harllee.
15th South Carolina, Maj. Frederick S. Lewie.
20th South Carolina, Maj. John M. Partlow.
3d South Carolina Battalion, Capt. P. F. Spofford.

Humphreys' Brigade.

Maj. G. B. GERALD.

13th Mississippi, Maj. George L. Donald.
17th Mississippi, Capt. Jesse C. Cochran.
18th Mississippi, Lieut. William Baskin.
21st Mississippi, Capt. William H. Dudley.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.†

THIRD ARMY CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. AMBROSE P. HILL.

MAHONE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM MAHONE.

Sanders' Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM H. FORNEY.

8th Alabama, Lieut. Col. John P. Emrich.
9th Alabama, Col. J. Horace King.
10th Alabama, Capt. Caleb W. Brewton.
11th Alabama, Col. George E. Taylor.
14th Alabama, Capt. Simon G. Perry.

Harris' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. NATHANIEL H. HARRIS.

12th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Thomas B. Manlove.
16th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. James H. Duncan.
19th Mississippi, Col. Richard W. Phipps.
48th Mississippi, Col. Joseph M. Jayne.

Weisiger's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. DAVID A. WEISIGER.

6th Virginia, Col. George T. Rogers.
12th Virginia, Maj. John R. Lewellen.
16th Virginia, Capt. Solomon B. Eley.
41st Virginia, Maj. William H. Etheredge.
61st Virginia, Lieut. Col. William H. Stewart.

Sorrel's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. G. MOXLEY SORREL.

3d Georgia, Capt. James A. Mason.
22d Georgia, Capt. George W. Thomas.
48th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Matthew R. Hall.
64th Georgia, Maj. Walter H. Weems.
2d Georgia Battalion, Capt. W. T. Walker.
10th Georgia Battalion, Capt. William A. Greer.

* Reported absent on inspection reports, and actual commanders of the regiments not indicated.

† See Army Valley District, p. 1245.

Finegan's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN.

2d Florida, Capt. John B. G. O'Neill.
5th Florida, Capt. J. F. Livingston.
8th Florida, Col. David Lang.
9th Florida, Col. John M. Martin.
10th Florida, Lieut. Col. William W. Scott.
11th Florida, Col. Theodore W. Brevard.

HETH'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. HENRY HETH.

Davis' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH R. DAVIS.

2d Mississippi, Col. John M. Stone.
11th Mississippi, Maj. Reuben O. Reynolds.
26th Mississippi, Maj. Tully F. Parker.
42d Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Andrew M. Nelson.
55th North Carolina, Capt. Robert W. Thomas.
1st Confederate Battalion, Maj. Francis B. McClung.

MacRae's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM MACRAE.

11th North Carolina, Capt. James M. Young.
26th North Carolina, Maj. James T. Adams.
44th North Carolina, Maj. Charles M. Stedman.
47th North Carolina, Capt. Sidney W. Mitchell.
52d North Carolina, Capt. William W. Carmichael.

Cooke's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN R. COOKE.

15th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William H. Yarborough.
27th North Carolina, Maj. Joseph C. Webb.
46th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Alexander C. McAlister.
48th North Carolina, Col. Samuel H. Walkup.

Archer's Brigade.

Col. ROBERT M. MAYO.*

13th Alabama, Col. James Aiken.
1st Tennessee, Maj. Felix G. Buchanan.
7th Tennessee, Lieut. Col. Samuel G. Shepard.
14th Tennessee, Col. William McComb.

Walker's Brigade.†

40th Virginia, Capt. Hiram E. Coles.
47th Virginia, Capt. Charles J. Green.
55th Virginia, Col. William S. Christian.
2d Maryland Battalion, Capt. Joseph L. McAleer.

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* Appears from return to have also commanded Walker's brigade.

† On monthly return for this date the 22d Virginia Battalion appears as in this brigade.

WILCOX'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. CADMUS M. WILCOX.

Thomas' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD L. THOMAS.

14th Georgia, Col. Richard P. Lester.
35th Georgia, Lieut. Col. William H. McCullohs.
45th Georgia, Col. Thomas J. Simmons.
49th Georgia, Col. John T. Jordan.

Lane's Brigade.

Col. ROBERT V. COWAN.

7th North Carolina, Capt. Nathan A. Pool.
18th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. John W. McGill.
28th North Carolina, Capt. Thomas V. Apperson.
33d North Carolina, Capt. Riddick Gatling, jr.
37th North Carolina, Maj. Jackson L. Bost.

McGowan's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL MCGOWAN.

1st South Carolina [Provisional Army], Col. Charles W. McCreary.
12th South Carolina, Capt. Robert M. Kerr.
13th South Carolina, Col. Isaac F. Hunt.
14th South Carolina, Col. Joseph N. Brown.
Orr's [1st South Carolina] Rifles, Col. George McD. Miller.

Scales' Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM L. J. LOWRANCE.

13th North Carolina, Maj. E. Benton Withers.
16th North Carolina, Col. William A. Stowe.
22d North Carolina, Col. Thomas S. Gallaway, jr.
34th North Carolina, Capt. George M. Norment.
38th North Carolina, Col. John Ashford.

ANDERSON'S CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. RICHARD H. ANDERSON.

HOKE'S DIVISION.*

Maj. Gen. ROBERT F. HOKE.

Hagood's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHNSON HAGOOD.

11th South Carolina, Col. F. Hay Gantt.
21st South Carolina, Col. Robert F. Graham.
25th South Carolina, Col. Charles H. Simonton.†
27th South Carolina, Col. Peter C. Gaillard.†
7th South Carolina Battalion, Maj. James H. Rion.

Colquitt's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED H. COLQUITT.

6th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Sampson W. Harris.
19th Georgia, Col. James H. Neal.
23d Georgia, Col. Marcus R. Ballenger.
27th Georgia, Capt. Elisha D. Graham.
28th Georgia, Capt. John A. Johnson.

Clingman's Brigade.

Col. HECTOR MCKETHAN.

8th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Rufus A. Barrier.
31st North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Charles W. Knight.
51st North Carolina, Capt. James W. Lippitt.
61st North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William S. Devane.

Kirkland's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM W. KIRKLAND.

17th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Sharp.
42d North Carolina, Col. John E. Brown.
66th North Carolina, Col. John H. Nethercutt.

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*Serving with First Army Corps.
†These officers reported as detached in inspection report, &c.

JOHNSON'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. BUSHROD R. JOHNSON.

Elliott's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM H. WALLACE.

17th South Carolina, Col. Fitz William McMaster.
18th South Carolina, Maj. Rolet J. Betsill.
22d South Carolina, Lieut. Col. William G. Burt.
23d South Carolina, Col. Henry L. Benbow.
26th South Carolina, Col. Alexander D. Smith.
Holcombe Legion, Capt. A. B. Woodruff.

Wise's Brigade.

Col. JOHN T. GOODE.

26th Virginia, Capt. William K. Perrin.
34th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Randolph Harrison.
46th Virginia, Capt. John H. White.
59th Virginia, Maj. Robert G. Mosby.

Ransom's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. MATTHEW W. RANSOM.

24th North Carolina, Maj. Thaddeus D. Love.
25th North Carolina, Col. Henry M. Rutledge.
35th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Simon B. Taylor.
49th North Carolina, Capt. Columbus H. Dixon.
56th North Carolina, Col. Paul F. Faison.

Gracie's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ARCHIBALD GRACIE, JR.

41st Alabama, Col. Martin L. Stansel.
43d Alabama, Lieut. Col. John J. Jolly.
59th Alabama, Lieut. Col. George W. Huguley.
60th Alabama, Lieut. Col. Daniel S. Troy.
23d Battalion Alabama Sharpshooters, Maj. Nicholas Stallworth.

FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT.

Brig. Gen. HENRY A. WISE.

Walker's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES A. WALKER.

Battalion Virginia Reserves, Col. Benjamin L. Farinholt.
Battalion Virginia Reserves, Col. P. M. Henry.
Battalion Virginia Reserves, Col. Richard A. Booker.
Battalion Virginia Reserves, Col. Robert E. Withers.
Section of artillery, Maj. Victor Maurin.

Post Lynchburg and Detailed Men.

Brig. Gen. RALEIGH E. COLSTON.

Garnett's Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JOHN J. GARNETT.

Battalion C. S. Zouaves, Maj. Fulgence De Bordenave.
Battalion Virginia Reserves, Maj. D. E. Godwin.
Company H, 8th Georgia Cavalry, Lieut. A. M. G. Wiggins.
Section of Bradford's (Mississippi) battery, Lieut. A. J. Cochran.

Petersburg.

Maj. WILLIAM H. KER.

44th Virginia Battalion, Company D, Capt. William E. Hinton.
Second-class militia, Capt. Owen H. Hobson.
Independent signal corps, Maj. James F. Milligan.

Unattached.

Provost Guard, Army of Northern Virginia, 1st Virginia Battalion, Maj. D. B. Bridgford.
39th Virginia Cavalry Battalion, Maj. John H. Richardson.

CAVALRY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON.

HAMPTON'S (OLD) DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. MATTHEW C. BUTLER.

Butler's Brigade.

Col. HUGH K. AIKEN.

4th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. William Stokes.
5th South Carolina, Capt. Zimmerman Davis.
6th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Lovick P. Miller.

Young's Brigade.

Col. J. FRED. WARING.

10th Georgia, Capt. L. J. Smith.
Cobb's (Georgia) Legion, Lieut. Col. Barrington S. King.
Phillips (Georgia) Legion, Lieut. Col. William W. Rich.
Jeff. Davis Legion, Maj. Ivey F. Lewis.

LEE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM H. F. LEE.

Chambliss' Brigade.

Col. RICHARD L. T. BEALE.

9th Virginia, Maj. Samuel A. Swann.
10th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Robert A. Caskie.
13th Virginia, Col. Jefferson C. Phillips.

Barringer's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. RUFUS BARRINGER.

1st North Carolina, Col. William H. Cheek.
2d North Carolina, Col. William P. Roberts.
3d North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Roger Moore.
5th North Carolina, Maj. James H. McNeill.

Dearing's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES DEARING.

8th Georgia, Col. Joel R. Griffin.
4th North Carolina, Col. Dennis D. Ferebee.
16th North Carolina Battalion, Capt. William K. Lane.

HORSE ARTILLERY.*

Maj. R. PRESTON CHEW.

Graham's battery, Capt. Edward Graham.
Hart's battery, Lieut. E. Lindsley Halsey.
McGregor's battery, Capt. William M. McGregor.

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* Johnston's, Thomson's, and Shoemaker's batteries, under Maj. James Breathed, attached to Rosser's command, Army of the Valley District.

ARTILLERY RESERVE, ETC.*

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM N. PENDLETON.

FIRST CORPS ARTILLERY.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD P. ALEXANDER.

Cabell's Battalion.

1st Company, Richmond Howitzers, Capt. Robert M. Anderson.
Manly's battery, Capt. Basil C. Manly.
Pulaski Artillery, Lieut. Morgan Callaway.
Troup Artillery, Capt. Henry H. Carlton.

Hardaway's Battalion.

3d Howitzers, Capt. Benjamin H. Smith jr.
Dance's battery, Capt. Willis J. Dance.
Griffin's battery, Capt. Charles B. Griffin.
Rockbridge Artillery, Capt. Archibald Graham.

Stark's Battalion.

Giles Artillery, Capt. David A. French.
Louisiana Guard Artillery, Capt. Charles A. Green.
Mathews Artillery, Capt. Andrew D. Armistead.

Huger's Battalion.

Fickling's battery, Capt. William W. Fickling.
Moody's battery, Lieut. Jordan C. Parkinson.
Parker's battery, Capt. William W. Parker.
Smith's battery, Capt. John D. Smith.
Taylor's battery, Capt. Osmond B. Taylor.
Woolfolk's battery, Lieut. James Woolfolk.

Haskell's Battalion.

Flanner's battery, Capt. Henry G. Flanner.
Garden's battery, Capt. Hugh R. Garden.
Lamkin's battery, Capt. James N. Lamkin.
Ramsay's battery, Capt. John A. Ramsay.

Johnson's Battalion.

Clutter's battery, Lieut. Lucas McIntosh.
Fredericksburg Artillery, Lieut. John G. Pollock.

THIRD CORPS ARTILLERY.

Col. R. LINDSAY WALKER.

McIntosh's Battalion.

1st Maryland Battery, Capt. William F. Dement.
4th Maryland Battery, Capt. Walter S. Chew.
2d Rockbridge Artillery, Capt. William K. Donald.
Crenshaw's battery, Capt. Thomas Ellett.
Rice's battery, Capt. Berryman Z. Price.

Poague's Battalion.

Graham's battery, Capt. Arthur B. Williams.
Utterback's battery, Capt. Addison W. Utterback.
Wyatt's battery, Capt. Charles F. Johnston.

Richardson's Battalion.

Donaldsonville Artillery, Capt. R. Prosper Landry.
Huger Artillery, Capt. Joseph D. Moore.
Norfolk Light Artillery, Capt. Charles R. Grandy.
Penick's battery, Capt. Nathan Penick.

Pegram's Battalion.

Gregg's battery, Capt. Thomas E. Gregg.
Letcher Artillery, Capt. Thomas A. Brander.
Purcell Artillery, Capt. George M. Cayce.
Richards' battery, Capt. Thomas J. Richards.

Eshleman's Battalion.

1st Company Washington Artillery, Capt. Edward Owen.
2d Company Washington Artillery, Capt. J. B. Richardson.
3d Company Washington Artillery, Capt. Andrew Hero, jr.
4th Company Washington Artillery, Capt. Joe Norcom.

Lane's Battalion.

Irwin Artillery, Capt. John T. Wingfield.
Patterson's battery, Capt. George M. Patterson.
Ross' battery, Capt. Hugh M. Ross.

* From returns, and actual commanders not indicated.

Owen's Battalion.

Davidson's battery, Capt. John H. Chamberlayne.
Dickenson's battery, Capt. Crispin Dickenson.
Otey's battery, Capt. David N. Walker.

ARTILLERY ANDERSON'S CORPS.

Col. HILARY P. JONES.

Moseley's Battalion.

Cumming's battery, Capt. James D. Cumming.
Miller's battery, Capt. John O. Miller.
Slaten's battery, Capt. C. W. Slaten.
Young's battery, Capt. Edward R. Young.

Blount's Battalion.

Dickerson's battery, Capt. James W. Dickerson.
Fauquier Artillery, Capt. William C. Marshall.
Fayette Artillery, Capt. Miles C. Macon.
Hampden Artillery, Capt. J. E. Sullivan.

Coit's Battalion.

Bradford's battery, Capt. William D. Bradford.
Pegram's battery, Capt. Richard G. Pegram.
Wright's battery, Capt. Samuel T. Wright.

Martin's Battalion.

Martin's battery, Lieut. Samuel H. Pulliam.
Sturdivant's battery, Lieut. William H. Weisiger.

ARMY VALLEY DISTRICT.*

Lieut. Gen. JUBAL A. EARLY.

EARLY'S DIVISION (SECOND CORPS).

Brig. Gen. JOHN PEGRAM.

Pegram's Brigade.

13th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Gustavus A. Goodman.
31st Virginia, Lieut. Col. John S. Hoffman.
49th Virginia, Lieut. Col. John Catlett Gibson.
52d Virginia, Lieut. Col. James H. Skinner.
58th Virginia, Lieut. Col. John G. Kasey.

Johnston's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT D. JOHNSTON.

5th North Carolina, Col. John W. Lea.
12th North Carolina, Col. Henry E. Coleman.
20th North Carolina, Col. Thomas F. Toon.
23d North Carolina, Col. Charles C. Blacknall.
1st Battalion North Carolina Sharpshooters, Capt. R. E. Wilson.

Lewis' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM G. LEWIS.

6th North Carolina, Col. Robert F. Webb.
21st North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William S. Rankin.
54th North Carolina, Col. Kenneth M. Murchison.
57th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Hamilton C. Jones, jr.

* From return of the Army of Northern Virginia.

RODES' DIVISION* (SECOND CORPS).

Battle's Brigade.

3d Alabama, Col. Charles Forsyth.
5th Alabama, Col. Josephus M. Hall.
6th Alabama, Col. James N. Lightfoot.
12th Alabama, Col. Samuel B. Pickens.
61st Alabama, Col. William G. Swanson.

Grimes' Brigade.

32d North Carolina, Col. David G. Coward.
43d North Carolina, Col. Thomas S. Kenan.
45th North Carolina, Col. John R. Winston.
53d North Carolina, Lieut. Col. James T. Morehead, jr.
2d North Carolina Battalion, Maj. John M. Hancock.

Cox's Brigade.

1st North Carolina, Col. Hamilton A. Brown.
2d North Carolina, Capt. John P. Cobb.
3d North Carolina, Col. Stephen D. Thruston.
4th North Carolina, Col. Edwin A. Osborne.
14th North Carolina, Col. R. Tyler Bennett.
30th North Carolina, Col. Francis M. Parker.

Cook's Brigade.

4th Georgia, Col. William H. Willis.
12th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Isaac Hardeman.
21st Georgia, Col. Thomas W. Hooper.
44th Georgia, Col. William H. Peebles.

GORDON'S DIVISION† (SECOND CORPS).

Maj. Gen. JOHN B. GORDON.

Evans' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. CLEMENT A. EVANS.

13th Georgia, Col. John H. Baker.
26th Georgia, Col. Edmund N. Atkinson.
31st Georgia, Col. John H. Lowe.
38th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Philip E. Davant.
60th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Thomas J. Berry.
61st Georgia, ——— ———.
12th Georgia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Henry D. Capers.

Terry's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM TERRY.

2d Virginia, Maj. Charles H. Stewart.
4th Virginia, Maj. Matthew D. Bennett.
5th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Hazel J. Williams.
10th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Dorilas H. Lee Martz.
21st Virginia, Col. William A. Witcher.
23d Virginia, Col. Alexander G. Taliaferro.
25th Virginia, Maj. Wilson Harper.
27th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Charles L. Haynes.
33d Virginia, Col. Abraham Spengler.
37th Virginia, Col. Titus V. Williams.
42d Virginia, Col. Robert W. Withers.
44th Virginia, Col. Norvell Cobb.
48th Virginia, Col. Robert H. Dungan.

York's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ZEBULON YORK.

1st Louisiana, Lieut. Col. James Nelligan.
2d Louisiana, Lieut. Col. Ross E. Burke.
5th Louisiana, Maj. Alexander Hart.
6th Louisiana, Lieut. Col. Joseph Hanlon.
7th Louisiana, Lieut. Col. Davidson B. Penn.
8th Louisiana, ——— ———.
9th Louisiana, Col. William R. Peck.
10th Louisiana, Col. Eugene Waggaman.
14th Louisiana, Col. David Zable.
15th Louisiana, Col. Edmund Pendleton.

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* Only two general officers (brigadier-generals) reported present for duty in the division.

† One major-general and two brigadier-generals reported present for duty.

WHARTON'S DIVISION * (SECOND CORPS).

Brig. Gen. GABRIEL C. WHARTON.

Patton's Brigade.

22d Virginia, Lieut. Col. John C. McDonald.
23d Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Clarence Derrick.
26th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. George M. Edgar.

Smith's Brigade.

36th Virginia, Col. Thomas Smith.
45th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Henry M. Beckley.
60th Virginia, Col. Beuhring H. Jones.

Forsberg's Brigade.

45th Virginia, Maj. Alexander M. Davis.
50th Virginia, Col. Alexander S. Vandeventer.
51st Virginia, Col. Augustus Forsberg.
30th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. J. Lyle Clarke.

CAVALRY CORPS.†

LOMAX'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. LUNSFORD L. LOMAX.

Imboden's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN D. IMBODEN.

18th Virginia, Col. George W. Imboden.
23d Virginia, Col. Robert White.
25th Virginia, Col. Warren M. Hopkins.
62d Virginia, Col. George H. Smith.

McCausland's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN MCCAUSLAND.

14th Virginia, Col. James Cochran.
16th Virginia, Col. Milton J. Ferguson.
17th Virginia, Capt. James S. A. Crawford.
21st Virginia, Col. William E. Peters.
22d Virginia, Col. Henry S. Bowen.

Jackson's Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM L. JACKSON.

19th Virginia, Col. William L. Jackson.
20th Virginia, Col. William W. Arnett.
26th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Joseph K. Kesler.
37th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Ambrose C. Dunn.
2d Maryland Battalion, Maj. Harry W. Gilmor.

ROSSER'S [FITZHUGH LEE'S] DIVISION.‡

Wickham's Brigade.

1st Virginia, Lieut. Col. William A. Morgan.
2d Virginia, Col. Thomas T. Munford.
3d Virginia, Col. Thomas H. Owen.
4th Virginia, Lieut. Col. William. B. Wooldridge.

Rosser's Brigade.

7th Virginia, Col. Richard H. Dulany.
11th Virginia, Col. Oliver R. Funsten.
12th Virginia, Col. Asher W. Harman.
35th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Elijah V. White.

Payne's Brigade.

5th Virginia, Col. Reuben B. Boston.
6th Virginia, Col. Julien Harrison.
8th Virginia, Col. James M. Corns.
15th Virginia, ——— ———.
36th Virginia Battalion, Maj. James W. Sweeney.

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* Two general officers reported present for duty.
† One major-general and three brigadier-generals reported present for duty.
‡ No general officers reported present for duty.

ARTILLERY.

Col. THOMAS H. CARTER.

Nelson's Battalion.

Kirkpatrick's battery.
Milledge's battery.
Snead's battery.

Cutshaw's Battalion.

Fry's battery.
Garber's battery.
Jones' battery.

With Lomax.

Griffin's battery.
Jackson's battery.
Lurty's battery.
McClanahan's battery.

Braxton's Battalion.

Carpenter's battery.
Cooper's battery.
Hardwicke's battery.

King's Battalion.

Bryan's battery.
Chapman's battery.
Lowry's battery.

With Rosser.

Johnston's battery.
Shoemaker's battery.
Thomson's battery.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Lieut. Gen. Richard S. Ewell commanding, for November 30, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Prisoners.	
	Officers.	Men.				Officers.	Men.
Tennessee Brigade	49	489	556	699	1,642	49	488
Brigadier-General Lee's command	72	578	778	863	2,853	.....	.....
Brigadier-General Barton's command	91	1,119	1,218	1,471	3,942	1	23
Second Battalion Virginia Reserves	26	186	222	285	844	1	6
Total	238	2,372	2,774	3,318	9,281	51	517
Brigadier-General Gary's command	81	1,404	1,658	1,924	3,471	21	370
Richmond Artillery Defenses	75	1,368	1,468	1,671	3,651	3	1
Ninth Georgia Battalion Artillery	16	410	440	466	645	3	48
Total	91	1,778	1,908	2,137	4,296	6	49
Grand total	410	5,554	6,340	7,379	17,048	78	936

Organization of troops in the Department of Richmond, commanded by Lieut. Gen. Richard S. Ewell, November 30, 1864.

Tennessee Brigade.

Col. JOHN M. HUGHS.

17th and 23d Tennessee (consolidated).
44th and 28th Tennessee (consolidated).
63d Tennessee.

Barton's Command.

Brig. Gen. SETH M. BARTON.

25th Virginia Battalion Infantry.
18th Georgia Battalion Heavy Artillery.
1st, 3d, and 4th Battalions Virginia Reserves.

Lee's Command.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE W. C. LEE.

2d Regiment Local Defense Troops.
3d Regiment Local Defense Troops.
1st Battalion Local Defense Troops.
4th Battalion Local Defense Troops.
5th Battalion Local Defense Troops
2d Battalion Virginia Reserves.

Gary's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. MARTIN W. GARY.

7th Georgia.
7th South Carolina.
Hampton (South Carolina) Legion.
24th Virginia.

RICHMOND ARTILLERY DEFENSES.

Lieut. Col. JOHN C. PEMBERTON.

10th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, } Lieut. Col. John W. Atkinson.
19th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, }
18th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. Mark B. Hardin.
20th Virginia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Maj. James E. Robertson.

LIGHT ARTILLERY

Lieut. Col. CHARLES E. LIGHTFOOT.

Caroline Light Artillery.
Nelson Light Artillery.
Surry Light Artillery.

CHAFFIN'S BLUFF.

Lieut. Col. JAMES HOWARD.

9th Georgia Battalion Artillery, Maj. A. Leyden.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY CORPS,
December 1, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: I have the honor to report the following desertions from my command since the 20th of November. Nearly all of the deserters went to the enemy.

Wilcox's division—Lane's brigade, 1 officer and 10 men; Scales' brigade, 3 men; McGowan's brigade, 4 men; total, 1 officer and 17 men. Mahone's division—Finegan's brigade, 27 men; Sorrel's brigade, 3 men; Sanders' brigade, 1 man; Weisiger's brigade, 3 men; total, 34 men. Heth's division—Archer's brigade, 4 men; Cooke's brigade, 3 men; MacRae's brigade, 1 man; total, 8 men. Grand total, 1 officer and 59 men.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. P. HILL,
Lieutenant-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
December 1, 1864.

Respectfully submitted to the honorable Secretary of War for his information.

Most of the men are supposed to have gone to the enemy. Scarce provisions, continuous duty in trenches is probably the cause.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Second indorsement.]

DECEMBER 9, 1864.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Noted. File.

Every effort will be made to remove the causes of desertion, especially that arising from scantiness of provisions.

J. A. S.,
Secretary.

HDQRS. ARTILLERY, ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 1, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. P. ALEXANDER,
Chief of Artillery, First Corps:

GENERAL: I took to Colonel Corley, in person, your application of 28th ultimo for a quartermaster to supply the temporary battalion, composed of two batteries—one from McIntosh and the other from Pegram, of the Third Corps—now under command of Maj. M. Johnson. The colonel informed me that so far from having an officer of the kind to assign, he is in need of many to fill existing demands. I then went to General Lee to express my views to him, and to learn his wishes. He was out on the lines, so that I did not see him; but Colonel Taylor informed me again that Owen's battalion was more likely to be needed here than on your line. I then called at Colonel Walker's quarters, and directed him to send over as soon as possible all the transportation to which these two batteries are entitled. You may, therefore, expect the wagons very soon. I was not aware that any had been left here. One more provision will be necessary to keep these companies in proper condition, viz, to attach them temporarily to another command, so as to be supervised by its commander and supplied by its quartermaster. The captaincies being vacant, and Major Johnson apparently much absent, adequate provision seems required for them. Hardaway's is, I think, the best command, then, to attach them to. I would myself issue the order, but there may be some reason against it and in favor of some other attachment. I therefore leave to you this arrangement, only indicating that unless you find adequate reason for some other attachment of Johnson's command, or some other effectual arrangement, it should be temporarily attached to Lieutenant-Colonel Hardaway's command.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

[DECEMBER 2, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon, reporting skirmish at Stony Creek Station on December 1, see Part I, p. 854.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 3, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL,
Commanding, &c.:

General Longstreet requests me to say to you that two deserters from the Tenth Corps, who came in yesterday, reported that an attack was to be made on our lines soon; that the canal is to be completed by blowing open the ends, and at the same time an explosion is to take place under one of our forts, near the river, at which time the attack is to occur. Should you deem this reliable, General Longstreet thinks you had best arrange an interior line of defense. The engineer officers are instructed to procure borers for the purpose of detecting any attempt to mine.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 3,*1864—3.10 p. m.*

Major HILL:

The enemy have planted buoys in the slough through Caroline Shoals, about where the boats were sounding Sunday evening. I did not see them until to-day. I have a large number of 9-inch shot. Are there two more 9-inch guns in town that I could get to put in the place where the two Brooke guns were? Had I not better send all the odd carriages and chassis and parts of same to town? I have two chassis that the Brooke guns were on in perfect condition, but no carriages to fit them. In making other carriages, &c., for Brooke guns they could be used.

LAMB,
Colonel.

FLAT ROCK, *December 4, 1864.*

His Excellency the PRESIDENT,
Richmond:

SIR: Since I last wrote you concerning the state of anarchy which exists here, wherever there is no military protection, I have been enabled to learn more clearly what is required. The condition of this corner of North Carolina is exceptional. Its loyal population is all in the army. The mountains here afford strongholds to the deserters and outlaws from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee. They have already organized two bands and have driven away some of the inhabitants, and they seem to proceed only against the low country people and the families of soldiers who are absent in the army. As Yankee officers have been seen among them, I presume they have been advised to this course so as to discontent the soldiers and induce them to desert. It would seem a task of no great difficulty to capture or destroy these outlaws. The difficulty arises from several causes. The first is that Colonel Palmer, who is in command, has at several times that he has started forces after them been obliged to call them in to proceed with him into Tennessee. On each of these occasions the deserters have taken advantage of his absence to renew their outrages. Another serious difficulty arises from the delay and failure to execute sentences of courts-martial. Some grievous offenders have been tried, and it is believed condemned, but the record of the trial has been lost on its way to the approving officer. In other cases, the parties have been allowed to return to their commands, and soon after they return to their old haunts. The remedy for these evils seems to me to be to make this portion of North Carolina, from the eastern foot of the Blue Ridge, an independent and separate district, and to place over it a brigadier-general, located at Asheville, with power to order and approve proceedings of courts-martial. The region now under the charge of General Holmes is so extensive and inaccessible that he cannot possibly conduct its business. Letters from Richmond take about ten days to reach here. There are no railroads and the stage roads are daily becoming less passable.

I well know the constant harassing which you encounter from applications for the appointment of brigadier-general, and I venture to enter that field with much diffidence. The opportunities, however, which I have had of judging Colonel Palmer enable me to recommend him to you with confidence. It is entirely to him is due the saving of any part of Vaughn's command when they fled before the enemy before the late advance of General Breckinridge. Colonel Palmer is a man of education, enterprise, and great industry. His habits are

* So dated in copy on file in the War Department, but December 31 is probably the correct date.

good and he is a pious, Christian officer, who seems to discharge faithfuliy his duties to God and man. I am more confident in urging the matter because recommendations of Colonel Palmer are on the files of the War Department from Generals Hardee, Stevenson, Preston, Buckner, Heth, and, I believe, General Bragg. I can add that the appointment will give satisfaction to the entire mass of loyal citizens in this section.

With much regard and esteem, your obedient servant,

C. G. MEMMINGER

[First indorsment.]

Secretary of War for attention.

It might be well to consult General Lee and to present in this connection the application from Governor Vance for General Leventhorpe, and the orders to General Martin.

J. D.

[Second indorsement.]

JANUARY 5, 1865.

Mr. S[HEPHERD]:

Obtain the letter of Governor Vance referred to, and also the instructions to General Martin, that General Lee may be consulted respecting them.

J. A. S[EDDON],
Secretary.

[Third indorsement.]

JANUARY 6, 1865.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Refer to General Lee, inviting his attention to the President's indorsement, and requesting his counsel.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Fourth indorsement.]

BUREAU OF ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL,
APPOINTMENT OFFICE,
January 10, 1865.

Respectfully referred to General R. E. Lee, inviting attention to the indorsements of the President and Secretary of War.

By command of Secretary of War:

ED. A. PALFREY,
Lieutenant-Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

[Fifth indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
January 20, 1865.

Respectfully returned.

I recommend that this section of the country be made into a separate department and placed under General Martin, now exercising command there. It is too distant for communication through General Holmes to me. The commander should have a military court, and be empowered

to review proceedings, &c. If General Martin does not succeed, Colonel Palmer, whom I believe to be an excellent officer, can be tried. I also recommend that General Leventhorpe, in the State service, be commissioned in the Confederate service, and ordered to report to General Bragg. He is the best officer in that district, and General Bragg will want him.

R. E. LEE,
General.

[Sixth indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 2, 1865.

Respectfully returned to Secretary of War, with General Lee's views indorsed hereon, and a telegram just received from General Lee; also the letter from Governor Vance for the transfer of General Leventhorpe from the State service to the Confederate service.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.

[Seventh indorsement.]

Nominate Colonel Leventhorpe to be brigadier-general.

J. D[AVIS].

[Eighth indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL:

Nominate General Leventhorpe.

J. A. S[EDDON],
Secretary.

[Ninth indorsement.]

FEBRUARY 3, 1865.

Respectfully submitted to the President, requesting his instructions as to the proposed department.

The nomination of Colonel Leventhorpe as brigadier-general will be submitted.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Inclosures to Cooper's indorsement of February 2.]

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, December 13, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

DEAR SIR: I earnestly desire to secure your action on behalf of the mountain country of Western North Carolina, now under command of Col. J. B. Palmer. There are troops enough there to afford ample protection both against the enemy and the tories and deserters, who throng the mountains, murdering and robbing the citizens, if under proper control and management. Colonel Thomas is worse than useless; he is a positive injury to that country. His command is a favorite resort for deserters; numbers of them, I learn, are on his rolls, who do no service. He is disobedient of orders, and invariably avoids the enemy when he advances. Colonel Palmer is a good bureau officer,

but, I think, unfitted for field service, especially of the peculiar character required in that country. I respectfully and earnestly recommend that you ask the President to appoint Collett Leventhorpe, late colonel of the Eleventh North Carolina Troops, a brigadier, and place him in command of that district. This gallant officer is now a brigadier of home guards in the service of this State, and has the universal confidence of our people, civil and military. I am earnest in the opinion that he, more than any other man, could restore quiet and order in that country.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. B. VANCE.

[First indorsement.]

DECEMBER 17, 1864.

Respectfully submitted for the consideration of the President.

The complaints against Colonel Thomas and Colonel Palmer surprise me, as I had, from all the representations made, supposed them both particularly efficient. It may be, however, that the appointment of brigadier to give unity to the command might prove beneficial, and therefore I submit Governor Vance's letter.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary.

[Second indorsement.]

DECEMBER 26, 1864.

SECRETARY OF WAR:

Is not Brigadier-General Martin in command of the District of Western North Carolina? If so, his experience and tried gallantry should secure good order and public confidence.

J. D[AVIS].

[Third indorsement.]

DECEMBER 30, 1864.

Brigadier-General Martin is in such command.

J. A. S[EDDON],
Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS,
February 2, 1865. (Received 9.25.)

General S. COOPER:

Please get action of President on recommendation for General Leventhorpe to be commissioned in Confederate service. Hoke applies for him to command Clingman's brigade.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Turnbull's, December 5, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President Confederate States, Richmond:

Mr. PRESIDENT: I have received the dispatch from General Bragg of the 4th instant, forwarded to me by Mr. B. N. Harrison, stating that there is still time for him to receive any assistance that can be spared. On the 27th ultimo General Whiting informed me that General Bragg

had carried with him 2,700 of the best troops from Wilmington. Since that he has ordered to Charleston a regiment of the North Carolina reserves, and I do not think, as far as I can judge, that more troops can be taken with propriety, unless we were certain that all danger of an attack was removed from that point. In addition, I sent General Young with about 400 cavalrymen (without horses) and ordered all those previously sent to Georgia and South Carolina to report to him at Augusta, which Hampton thinks will give him about 800 mounted men, which I thought would strengthen the cavalry very much in that department. General Baker has also gone to General Bragg, so that he will have another good cavalry commander. I fear I can do nothing more under present circumstances. General Early reports that his scouts stated the Sixth Corps had broken camp on the 2d and taken the cars at Stephenson's Depot, said to be going to City Point. From reports received from Longstreet and Ewell last night I think this corps or a part of it may have reached the north side of James River last night. My last report from scouts on the James was to the 2d. There had been great activity on the river in transportation of supplies, but no troops had passed in any numbers since the 17th ultimo. Reports of Early and Longstreet have not yet been corroborated, but the whole preparations of the enemy indicate some movement against us. All we want to resist them is men.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 5, 1864.

Flag-Officer PINCKNEY,
Comdg. C. S. Naval Forces, North Carolina, Present:

I much regret that I have to place before you the accompanying report* of Major Venable, assistant adjutant and inspector general, of circumstances which took place night before last on Confederate Point, seriously implicating certain officers and men belonging to the naval detachment at Battery Buchanan. I beg that you will refer the report to Lieutenant Chapman, commanding that battery, for such explanation as he may have to make, and with directions to return the report of Major Venable. The most important circumstance in this untoward affair is the violation of forty-ninth Article of War, and the very excited state of feeling brought about in the garrison of Confederate Point, so constantly on duty, day and night. But independent of the grave matter of this report as individually affecting any of the parties concerned, I am convinced that a divided command or responsibility can no longer be maintained on Confederate Point with safety to the place, which is the paramount consideration, or with regard to the best interest of both services. The position is too important, the responsibility of Colonel Lamb, commanding Fort Fisher, too great, proper discipline and subordination too essential, not to require that absolute harmony of action which can only exist in a single command and which has been so disturbed. This was duly considered in the first instance, but I was in great hopes in making the post a separate one, that no difficulty would obtain. As a part of and auxiliary to the defenses of Fort Fisher, as long as the naval detachment remains at Battery Buchanan, I must request you to direct the officer in charge

* Not found.

to report for duty through the colonel commanding Confederate Point to the commanding general. I regret very much that the customary rules relative to service with the army on shore are now found necessary to be strictly adhered to, except that as a matter of course the garrison of Battery Buchanan as long as it is detached by you is subject to your recall, it must hereafter be considered as in military service. As all action in the premises originated here, I hope that you and I can arrange this matter satisfactorily and without reference to Richmond.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 6, 1864.

Col. C. S. VENABLE, *Aide-de-Camp:*

Your note of yesterday is received. Our scouts are constantly out trying to get valuable information of the enemy's movements, but they report the enemy's lines so closely picketed that it is impossible for them to pass through them. The command is on the alert and every man who can be supplied with spade, pick, or ax is kept at hard labor strengthening our lines. I think that the enemy will hardly venture an assault upon such formidable lines as we have upon this side, unless he forces his way up the river, and it must be some time yet before he can complete his canal.

I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

CONFIDENTIAL.] HEADQUARTERS,
Turnbull's, December 6, 1864.

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS:

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Sixth Corps of the enemy is reported to have certainly taken cars at Stephenson's Depot on the 1st, 2d, and 3d instant for Harper's Ferry. It is stated they did not go west, and that no other troops have left Sheridan. Lieutenant Cawood reports that twenty-one steamers loaded with troops descended the Potomac on the 3d, passing his station at 5 p. m. He estimates their number at 10,000 men. I presume they were a part of the Sixth Corps, returning to General Grant, and I think Lieutenant Cawood's estimate of the number he saw too large. General Gordon's division will reach Richmond to-morrow night, and I have directed General Early to have another division in readiness to follow it.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

PETERSBURG, *December 7, 1864.* (Received 2.30 p. m.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War:*

A scout just in reports enemy—cavalry, infantry, and artillery—moving down Jerusalem plank road; had passed Captain Proctor's this morning. General Pickett reports enemy crossing to south side at

Cox's Landing; nothing to indicate intention of enemy on our right. Have directed General Longstreet to re-enforce Pickett, and instructed Captain Mitchell to co-operate. The Sixth Corps arrived last night; reported on this front. Please expedite movement of troops from Waynesborough.

R. E. LEE.

PETERSBURG, *December 7, 1864.*

General E. P. ALEXANDER:

I wish you to proceed to Battery Dantzler. See General Pickett and endeavor to rectify matters.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

General Longstreet has gone across the James River. Hoke's division and Haskell's battalion of artillery have also gone over. General Pickett has just telegraphed that the enemy is in small force on his side of the river. He is holding his lines and is not uneasy.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

General R. E. LEE:

General Pickett telegraphs that the enemy is crossing at Cox's Landing. If that is the case he had better extend his left, so as to inclose that neck of land, replacing his troops on the right by some of the unreliable troops that are expected to-day. It is said that the troops in front of General Pickett are negroes; if that is true it is hardly probable that any attack will be made by the enemy along that front. It will therefore be best to occupy that part of our line by troops that are not likely to be so efficient in the field. I have directed General Alexander to open such of his batteries upon the bridge as he can bring to bear upon it.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

General R. E. LEE:

I have just returned from General Pickett's left. I find but a small force of the enemy have crossed to that point. I have halted Hoke's division at the bridge to await your instructions. Please send them at once that the troops may move on, if you still think them needed on the south side.

J. LONGSTREET.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT,
Commanding Division:

Your telegraph just received. General Longstreet has gone across the river; also Hoke's division and a battalion of artillery.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Commanding Division:

You will move your division over to the south side of the James River, as soon as you can possibly do so, this evening. Haskell's battalion of artillery will report to and accompany you. You will leave your skirmishers and pickets out in front, who, when relieved by General Kershaw, will follow you. An officer will be at Chaffin's Bridge to conduct you to your position on the south side. You will commence moving by dark.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW,
Commanding Division:

You will move your division down the line immediately and occupy the position now held and about to be vacated by General Hoke's division. His skirmishers and pickets, when relieved by yours, will rejoin him.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL,
Commanding, &c.:

General Pickett reports that the enemy are crossing at Cox's Landing. They have driven in our pickets and are now laying pontoons. Will you see if any of the lower batteries can be brought to bear on the bridge they are laying? If so, open fire.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Brig. Gen. E. P. Alexander, commanding artillery.)

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 7, 1864.

General R. S. EWELL,
Commanding, &c.:

General Hoke will arrange to put a regiment on the right of Fort Gilmer and relieve the troops you have on that part of your line. You can dispose of the troops so relieved in strengthening the balance of your line. A detail will be sent over from Hoke's division to construct winter quarters in rear of the line, and when they are completed, which they will be in a few days, the regiment will move over. If you can release the wagons of General Hoke's command which you have the work will be much facilitated. The review is now indefinitely postponed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

PETERSBURG, *December 8, 1864.* (Received 6.55.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

The force of the enemy moving south is said to consist of Fifth Corps and two divisions of Second, with Gregg's cavalry, under General Warren; are evidently advancing on Hicksford. The number of cattle and wagons with them indicate a more distant object, and an invasion of North Carolina may be intended. Hampton is close to them and Hill on their right. General J. A. Walker, with such force as can be spared from his lines, and General Leventhorpe, with his, are ordered to Weldon. Governor Vance and General Holmes have been requested to send to same point all available State reserve troops.

R. E. LEE.

PETERSBURG, *December 8, 1864.*
(Received 9.50.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

Second and Fifth Corps of enemy, with Gregg's division of cavalry, are moving south on Jerusalem plank road. Cavalry reached Sussex Court-House at 7 p. m. yesterday. Hill and Hampton are following. Appearances indicate they are moving against Weldon, where I am concentrating all the depot guards I can.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 8, 1864.

Colonel LIPSCOMB,
Commanding, &c., Masonborough:

COLONEL: Send two of your companies of cavalry under a good officer to take post opposite Topsail Inlet, say between Topsail Inlet and Sloop Point. They must be very vigilant in watching the sound, especially for communication with the enemy, and in guarding the crossings of Virginia Creek lines. The same regulations with regard to lines,

salt-works, use of boats, and fishing as in the rest of your command. You can communicate with Virginia Creek by telegraph through headquarters.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 8, 1864.*

General HÉBERT, *Smithville.*

The general directs that the Seventh Battalion Junior Reserves report in town at Camp Lamb, with three days' cooked rations, as soon as possible. A steamer will be ordered for them.

JAS. H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 8, 1864.*

Colonel JACKSON, *Sugar Loaf:*

The general directs that the Fourth and Eighth Battalions Junior Reserves march at once to Camp Lamb, with three days' cooked rations. Let me know when they start. They must be here as soon as possible with all effective men.

JAS. H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding:*

GENERAL: After a careful consideration of the enemy's position near General Pickett's left, I have thought that it would be imprudent to make a fight for the ground lost there on the 5th instant. I believe that the position that was lost could be recovered by the loss of fifty or 100 men, by a night attack; but the entire position can be so entirely swept by the enemy's fire, both of artillery and infantry, that it cannot be made tenable after the enemy have determined to take it. The main position held there by General Pickett is a strong one, and will, I think, prevent any material advance by the enemy. The position now occupied by the enemy is very peculiar and cannot be described without a map. In deciding not to make a fight for the lost ground I think that I did as you would have done yourself if you could have been there.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864—5.30 p. m.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding, &c.:*

Your dispatch* is just received. I do not know that I can attack to advantage, as I have not made a reconnaissance with that view. If you can hold your position I will move out to-morrow morning and make the attack, if it is possible to do so. This might cause a greater

*Not found.

delay than it would be prudent to make. I shall order the troops to be ready and shall either send a division to you or move out and try and get at the enemy early in the morning. If I can get at him on this side I think it will be a better move, but as there is some doubt about that it may be better to re-enforce you by a division. If you can wait until day after to-morrow for the re-enforcements I can move out to-morrow and ascertain what can be done here, in time to send the division on the following day. In case I find that I cannot operate here to advantage the troops can go to you by rail, at that time; it might answer you as well. May you not use a brigade of General Pickett's in defending, whilst I am trying to operate here offensively? Please let me know your decision at the earliest possible moment.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Colonel LOGAN,
Commanding Gary's Cavalry Brigade:

You will have your command under arms and mounted at the junction of Charles City road and line of works at 5 o'clock to-morrow morning, with three days' rations. You will then receive further orders.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

General E. P. ALEXANDER,
Commanding, and Chief of Artillery:

You will order a battalion of artillery to report on the Charles City road, at the junction with the line of works, at 5 o'clock to-morrow. It will then receive further orders. You will order the rest of the artillery under your command to be in readiness to move at daylight in the morning. You will please report in person to Lieutenant-General Longstreet, at the Mr. Randolph's house, as soon as possible to-night, having with you a staff officer and courier.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Major-General KERSHAW,
Commanding Division:

You will hold your division ready to move at daylight in the morning, with three days' rations, and you will relieve General Hoke's division at 5 o'clock to-morrow.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT,
Commanding, &c.:

You will hold one of your brigades in readiness to re-enforce us on this side of the river or go to the assistance of General Lee to-morrow morning. You will have it under arms at daylight.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD,
Commanding, &c.:

You will have your division ready to move at daylight in the morning, with three days' rations. You will inform yourself as well as possible about the cross-roads between Darbytown and New Market roads, and procure the best guide you can for that part of the country. It might be necessary for you to make use of that knowledge to-morrow.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Commanding, &c.:

You will have your division ready to move at daylight to-morrow morning, with three days' rations. General Kershaw will relieve you at 5 a. m. to-morrow, and you will be in readiness either to re-enforce General Lee or operate against the enemy on this side of the river, as may be decided on. You will inform yourself as well as possible concerning the cross-roads between the Darbytown and New Market roads, and procure such guides as you can find best informed concerning that part of the country. It may be necessary for you to use this knowledge in the morning against the enemy.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 9, 1864.

General R. S. EWELL,
Commanding, &c.:

It may be necessary for the troops on this side of the river to operate against the enemy to-morrow morning. In that event you will hold your command in readiness to make a diversion along your front. You had better be under arms at daylight.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 9, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia, Petersburg:

GENERAL: I have received your letter of December 3 relative to the extra duty men belonging to the troops taken by General Bragg. Under all the circumstances, I sent to the Department of South Carolina and Georgia a regiment of Senior Reserves, in preference to stopping all work here, and greatly weakening the already inadequate garrisons of the forts. The reserves absent equaled the number of men retained. As you left the matter to my discretion, I feel that I do not need the present emergency in North Carolina to support my action. I received your telegram last night, and have already dispatched 1,500 men and four guns from this point, besides the troops of the Second District, to Weldon. This leaves this point very bare, but if the troops reach Leventhorpe in time I anticipate the best results, and hope to have them back very shortly. I have been embarrassed to-day by a report from my picket-lines that the enemy were moving from Sheppardsville and New Berne on the railroad, and doubted to send all that have gone, as in event of cutting the road all my force would be cut off, but I decided to risk it and pushed them forward. On receipt of your telegrams, I ventured to ask for the return of the North Carolina troops, a matter which of course must depend on the condition of affairs against Sherman. I found we had fourteen pontoons at Goldsborough, the ropes and pontoniers being at Fort Branch. These have been ordered forward to General Leventhorpe.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 9, 1864.*

General SAMUEL JONES:

General Lee telegraphs march of two corps of Grant's army and division of cavalry on North Carolina by Weldon with large amount of wagons and cattle; requires troops of this department to oppose them.

W. H. C. WHITING.

(Same to General Beauregard.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, December 9, 1864.

Col. G. JACKSON, Provisional Army, C. S.:

COLONEL JACKSON: You will proceed by railroad with three battalions of Junior Reserves and four pieces of Paris' battery to Weldon. At that point report for temporary service to General Leventhorpe, commanding Second District, who will have been notified of the movement. On the road, however, you will carefully inquire whether there is any approach of the enemy from either New Berne or the coast upon the road, that is, official intelligence. This will govern your movement. Should there be satisfactory information of any approach to cut this command reaching Weldon, stop the trains, assume command in your vicinity and make the dispositions to attack the enemy or defend the road as circumstances will admit. But be very sure; otherwise

press on to re-enforce General Leventhorpe. He will understand that the moment the emergency calling for this service is passed, these forces will return here. Telegraph General Leventhorpe of movement, also of Millard's and Hahr's battalions, also Colonel Starr. Order commissary stores and forage.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 9, 1864.*

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

I intended to come down to-day but cannot. Lee reports the Fifth and Second Corps from Grant's army, with a division of cavalry and a large number of wagons and cattle, moving on North Carolina by Weldon. Last night they were near Belfield. A part of Lee's army is following. He requires all the troops in this department available to oppose. Between Bragg and Lee, Sherman and Grant, old North Carolina is in a pretty fix. This morning I get word from the front that raids are moving on railroad from Sheppardsville and New Berne. Am compelled to hold Jackson in hand with Paris' battery and three battalions of Junior Reserves. Am glad there is a northeaster.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[DECEMBER 10, 1864.—For Lee to Seddon (two dispatches), reporting operations, &c., see Part I, p. 855.]

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, &c., Petersburg:

I will move my command out before day to operate against the enemy on this side. Will you keep me advised of the enemy's movements on your side of the river, as they may have some influence on my movements.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL,
Commanding, &c., Chaffin's Farm:

General Longstreet will move against the enemy at 5 o'clock this morning. Will you co-operate with his move by making such demonstrations as you think best.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Commanding Division:

General Field will move his division at 4 o'clock this morning down the Darbytown road. You will hold your command in readiness to follow his move on the Darbytown road by the left flank.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 293. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, December 10, 1864.

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XXIII. The corps of cadets under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Shipp are relieved from duty in the trenches around Richmond, and will be turned over to the State authorities to resume their studies.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

Brig. Gen. E. P. ALEXANDER,
Commanding, and Chief of Artillery:

The movement against the enemy on this side of the river begins at 4.30 o'clock this morning.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW,
Commanding Division:

You will move your division down the line of works at 5 o'clock this morning, and relieve General Hoke's division.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—3 a. m.

Colonel LOGAN,
Commanding Brigade:

You will move your command down the Charles City road (starting at 4.30 o'clock this morning) till you reach that point where the road crosses the south fork of the White Oak Swamp near Brightwell's.

You will hold that position, sending scouts down to Riddell's Shop, and across to the Darbytown road by the road leading [to] the Charles City road at Brightwell's. You will there await further orders. General Field's division will move on the Darbytown road.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 10, 1864—3 a. m.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD,
Commanding Division:

You will move your division at 5 o'clock this morning, moving your right brigade in line of battle at right angles to and along the old line of works, and following the move with your other four brigades, and stretching out in line of battle along the Darbytown road, with your right resting on the line of works. The battalion of artillery which you will find on the Charles City road at the works will accompany your move, you giving it orders to that effect. When you are extended out on the Darbytown road you will throw out a line of pickets and send out scouts in the direction of the New Market road. The general movement will not precede this until General Longstreet reaches the ground. Colonel Logan, with Gary's cavalry, will move down the Charles City road.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, December 10, 1864—11 a. m.

Captain BEAZLEY,
Commanding Outposts, Jacksonville:

CAPTAIN: In view of the operations going on about Weldon the greatest vigilance must be exercised to prevent any parties of the enemy from New Berne or Sheppardsville from reaching the railroad. You must be very careful of the character of your information, and, when reliable, send it to me as rapidly as possible. The Second South Carolina are in readiness to move. Two hundred cavalry are on their way to Kenansville from the Second District. Their commander is instructed to communicate with you by courier, according to enemy's movements, should any take place. If he moves toward Kenansville or above, you must help the force there; if toward you, they must aid you. At all hazards enemy must not reach the road. Hold your officers to the most rigid responsibility for the efficiency of the pickets. I have received reports that [that] duty is not properly attended to in Captain Morris' company.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 11, 1864.

HON. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War, Richmond:

SIR: I have been informed by General Stevens that you have consented to the retention of our present negro force until Christmas. This will prove to be some relief, but not sufficient for our wants. My original request was for 5,000 laborers. Two thousand is the greatest number which ever reported, and those in small bodies at different intervals. The period for which they were first called was thirty days, and subsequently extended to sixty days. A large number of them have deserted, many not serving the first thirty days. Since the expiration of this period the desertions have greatly increased. I cannot state the present strength of the force, but think it cannot exceed 1,200. I consequently have not been able to accomplish half I desired. In our present extended line, requiring the troops to be always on duty and prepared for any movements of the enemy, I cannot use them as formerly for any work requiring them to leave their trenches. This is the reason why a laboring force is necessary, and unless I can get it for the completion of interior lines of defense, construction of roads, and other work necessary to the existence of an army, I shall be unable to hold my position. Of the negroes called for under the act of February 17, 1864, I have not yet received enough to replace the white teamsters in the army. In fact, we have not received more than sufficient to supply teamsters for the Third Corps and a portion of one division. Not one has yet been received for laboring purposes, and to any inquiries on the subject I get no satisfactory reply. I beg, therefore, to call your attention to this matter, which I deem of the greatest importance, and request that prompt measures may be taken to supply this demand.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864—5 p. m.

General R. E. LEE, *Petersburg:*

I have advanced as far down as New Market Heights, and found the enemy fortified along the whole distance, though apparently not in great force. I have made no attacks except to drive in the picket-lines. I shall return to my works to-night and will be able to spare you a division if you require it. If you call for a division, please name the one you wish.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864.

General R. E. LEE, *Petersburg:*

Two deserters have just come in who report that the Sixth Corps crossed over to the north side last night. If this is so I cannot spare a division.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 11, 1864.

General R. E. LEE:

Your letter of the 9th is received. I think that the local troops may be depended upon to hold the part of the line now occupied my them if we can organize them into proper commands and get proper officers for the commands. I think it would be well to have an active major-general in command of the force who can get about well on foot, as we can hardly expect a horse to live under the fire that will probably be opened upon that part of our lines by the enemy when he is prepared to attempt to take it. General Ewell could not get about, therefore, rapidly enough to do as much as he would like, besides such would not be his proper or legitimate duties. I have thought of the expediency of replacing the locals by other troops before, but was apprehensive that the authorities at Richmond might conclude that they were not necessary, if they were put in any other position, and that they might take them from us. All of the other troops are likely to be needed at some time at other points and to be moved to other points, which would involve the necessity of sending the locals back to their present line. Such changes would have a tendency to impair their confidence in themselves and to magnify the dangers of the position. There can hardly be a doubt but that proper organization and proper officers will soon make this force as effective and reliable as any that we have. I would suggest that course, as the most likely to meet the best interests of the service. Everything that I can get in the shape of working utensils is kept busy, and I am doing all that I possibly can to preserve the health of the troops, as well as to add to their comfort. I am pleased at all times, however, to have any suggestions that you may make, and am gratified to find that you in your numerous duties do not lose sight of these small matters, which are so essential to the general interest of the service.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

RICHMOND, *December 12, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. J. L. CORLEY,
Chief Quartermaster, near Petersburg:

SIR: Your communication of the 10th ultimo in relation to the wants of the Army of Northern Virginia, in the way of clothing, was received. Since its receipt several special requisitions with indorsements on the same subject have also been received. A reply has been delayed in order that the information you request might be put in as definite a form as possible, and it was not ascertained until the close of last week at what time blankets and other supplies expected from Wilmington and Columbia would reach here. It was with some surprise that the department learned the great necessities of the troops. There has certainly been some misunderstanding. The impression here has all along been that you were receiving enough to make the army not only efficient but comfortable. Your silence, coupled with the issues actually made, gave rise to this belief. Major Janney remarks, November 19, that "the great deficiency of clothing has been frequently repre-

sented to the chief quartermaster of the army, and by him to the department at Richmond." Your communication of the 10th was the first intimation received to this effect, and the only one, save the requisition referred to, which followed. This is only mentioned to show that more timely information as to your actual wants might have avoided trouble. There has not been a time within the two months prior to your call when, upon short notice, the army could not have been fairly supplied with every article except overcoats, which are not made up, nor is there now any difficulty save as to jackets and pants, and that occasioned by the fact that recent movements in Georgia have absorbed the production of one manufacturing depot, that at Augusta, and cut us off from another, the largest in the Confederacy, the one at Columbus, Ga. Some of the requisitions indicate a want of shirts, drawers, and socks. As to these there has never been any difficulty, every depot being stocked. Of shoes the department for four months past has had an ample supply, and of blankets a fair supply, at this point, and large numbers stored elsewhere. The latter, as already stated, are now reaching here. Major Bentley has been directed to send you 10,000 blankets, besides the recent shipments, and I feel that I can safely say you may call upon him for whatever you may need, either in the way of shoes or blankets, between now and the end of the quarter to make the army comfortable, and he will be able to forward the same promptly. To meet the present deficiency of pants and jackets it has been arranged to put up the production at this point to 1,000 suits a day; all of which will go to you until you are supplied. Some thousands of flannel shirts have recently been sent to you and others will be forwarded as they may arrive. The 5,000 overcoats then on hand were placed at your disposal some six weeks ago, and it is hoped that some 10,000 or 12,000 more may be received from abroad in a short time, the bulk of which will go to you.

The great aim of the department has been to economize supplies for the benefit of the troops in the field. To that end issues to furloughed men have been suspended, and issues to detailed men and men in hospitals greatly diminished. For the Army of Northern Virginia it has felt especial concern, and it is now confident that in a short time it will be able to meet all fair demands in its behalf. In this connection, however, it is suggested that immediate and efficient steps be taken to check the waste of soldiers' clothing by sale and barter. It is an evil greatly on the increase, and with the facilities that soldiers have in Petersburg and Richmond for disposing of what is sent to them, it will be impossible with the amplest supply to keep the army clad, unless this abuse is stopped. The department has suffered, too, from the absence of its detailed operatives. The bulk of the shoemakers detailed from the army in the field on the ground that they could be more advantageously employed at their trade as experts, have been in the trenches for three months past, and are still there. I would suggest, further, that next spring the soldiers be required to turn in their blankets. They will then be more available for reissue, and the department will be able to look ahead. The requisitions referred to are returned with this communication, as they may be of service in the distribution of the supplies now going forward.

A. R. LAWTON,
Quartermaster-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
No. 71. } *December 12, 1864.*

The general commanding has heard, with pain and mortification, that outrages and depredations, amounting in some cases to flagrant robbery, have been perpetrated upon citizens living within the lines, and near the camps of the army. Poor and helpless persons have been stripped of the means of subsistence and suffered violence by the hands of those upon whom they had a right to rely for protection. In one instance an atrocious murder was perpetrated upon a child by a band of ruffians whose supposed object was plunder.

The general commanding is well aware that the great body of the army which so unselfishly devotes itself to the defense of the country regards these crimes with abhorrence, and that they are committed by a few miscreants unworthy of the name of soldiers. But he feels that we cannot escape the disgrace that attends these evil-doers, except by the most strenuous exertions on our part to restrain their wickedness and bring upon them the just punishment of their offenses. This can only be accomplished by the united efforts of those good and true men who are no less desirous of being esteemed for virtue by their countrymen than of being respected for courage by their enemies. Laws and orders will prove ineffectual unless sustained by the hearty co-operation of those who feel that the existence of the evil is a reproach to themselves. The aid of all such is earnestly and confidently invoked to remove this stain from the fair name of the army. Let each man guard its honor as zealously as his own, regarding those who bring reproach upon it as enemies of his own reputation, and remembering that to withhold information that might lead to the detection of these criminals is to become morally a participant of their guilt.

The attention of officers is particularly directed to this subject. Their responsibility is greatest, for upon their care and vigilance necessarily depend, in a great degree, the prevention and detection of unlawful acts by these men.

Those commanding regiments, companies, or in charge of camps, hospitals, or detachments, will be required to account for all who fail to attend the roll-calls under existing orders, or for such of their officers and men as may be arrested absent from their commands without proper authority by the guards and pickets of the army.

Corps commanders will habitually keep out patrols to arrest all who are improperly absent and to protect the persons and property of those residing in the vicinity of their commands. When arrested the parties themselves and the officers responsible for their conduct will be brought to trial without delay.

By command of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 12, 1864—7 p. m.

General R. E. LEE, *Petersburg:*

Your dispatch* of to-day is received. There is no indication of a move on the part of the enemy on this side. The troops that are reported to be moving to the enemy's left, may be the Sixth Corps returning. I shall be ready to re-enforce you as you may direct on very short notice.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

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* Not found.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Wilmington, N. C., December 12, 1864.*

Surg. Samuel Logan, Provisional Army, C. S., having reported as directed in paragraph XXIV, of Special Orders, No. 283, from Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, under date of November 29, 1864, is announced as medical director of this command. All surgeons and assistant surgeons in this department will report by letter their name, rank, date of commission or contract, post-office, and with what troops serving.

By command of Major-General Whiting:

JAS. H. HILL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

PETERSBURG, *December 13, 1864.*
(Received 6.10.)

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

The expedition to Belfield under General Warren returned within the enemy's lines yesterday. The two divisions of the Ninth Corps, which went to Warren's relief, proceeded no farther than Belches' Mill. On meeting the returning column it turned back. On retiring from Belfield the enemy moved eastwardly to the Jerusalem and Sussex Court-House roads. Our troops consequently only encountered their rear guards and pursued no farther than the Nottoway River. They have returned to camp, bringing in a few prisoners. Our loss very slight. The superintendent of the railroad reports about six miles of the track broken up.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 13, 1864.

General S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General:

Your dispatch of to-day received. Every available man at the south should now be sent to Savannah. As long as Grant retains his present force here I do not think this army can be weakened. If he withdraws any part I can detach proportionally. If the department thinks otherwise I will send whatever it directs.

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *December 13, 1864.*

General B. BRAGG,
Augusta, Ga.:

Under present circumstances your presence at Wilmington may be more useful to the public defense than a longer continuance at Augusta. The question is referred to your judgment, and you will act as seems to you best.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

NEAR PETERSBURG, *December 14, 1864.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President of the Confederate States:

Mr. PRESIDENT: After sending my dispatch to you yesterday, knowing that the snow in the Valley was six inches deep and the weather very cold, and presuming that active operations would necessarily be suspended, I directed Rodes' division to march for Staunton and requested the Quartermaster-General to send cars to convey it to Richmond. It is now on the road, and should reach Staunton to-morrow evening. If the Quartermaster's Department is active, it should arrive in Richmond Friday morning. A dispatch received from General Early last night states that the scouts just in report that the Nineteenth Corps of the enemy had left the Valley, and that the Eighth was under marching orders. The latter might be preparing to move nearer the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, for I do not think they will strip it of all defense, or both corps may be coming to General Grant. Colonel Withers' scouts report that a New York regiment of infantry and part of the Seventh Regiment of cavalry had left the Kanawha for the Valley, but I supposed they might have been intended to replace the garrison at New Creek. I do not know what may be General Grant's next move; his last against the Weldon railroad and our right flank failed. The expeditions from Plymouth and New Berne against Fort Branch, on the Roanoke, and Kinston, N. C., have both retreated before the forces moved against them back to their former positions, and everything at this time is quiet in the Departments of Virginia and North Carolina. If the reports of the prisoners and the statements of Federal officers to the citizens of the country are true, the object of the last expedition was to make a permanent lodgment at Weldon, draw supplies by the Roanoke and Seaboard Railroad, and thence operate against the railroads in North Carolina. General Grant may now be preparing to break through our center, as the canal at Dutch Gap is reported nearly completed. As long as he holds so large an army around Richmond I think it very hazardous to diminish our force. We now can oppose about a division to one of his corps. I fear Savannah is in great danger, and unless our operations there are bold and energetic I am apprehensive of its fall. I hope, though, if all our troops are united, Sherman may be repulsed. But there is no time to lose. If the Nineteenth Corps does not come to Grant we might spare a division, but if the Nineteenth and Eighth are both drawn to him we shall require more men than we have. I ordered General J. A. Walker, with the Virginia reserves, from Weldon to Kinston, to oppose the movement against that place. He is now on his return to his position on the Danville and South Side roads.

With a firm reliance in our merciful God that he will cause all things to work together for our good, I remain, with great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

RICHMOND, VA., *December 14, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

The danger to Savannah was less the point of consideration than the result to be obtained by successful resistance to Sherman's attempt to march his army to the coast. I know too little of our force in the

Valley, or of that of the enemy there, to form an opinion as to the propriety of removing Rodes' division. If reducing the forces in the Valley would open to the enemy the route to the rear of Richmond, or enable him by the removal of all the threatening forces to send large re-enforcements to Grant, the increased danger to Richmond would be greater than justifiable, unless under the necessity of adopting a new line of defense. Should our forces be able to prevent the enemy on the coast from moving out toward Sherman, and also to prevent Sherman from marching to the coast, would it not probably cause re-enforcements to be sent to the enemy in that quarter and must they not be taken from one of his armies operating against Virginia. The dispatches from Georgia and South Carolina have given all the information I possess in relation to affairs there, and I feel now, as heretofore, that no one can judge as well as yourself whether circumstances warrant you in sending away any portion of the troops you now have in your possession. The necessity, whatever be its degree, is immediate, and if the movement of troops were attempted, it should, as far as practicable, be by those who could reach them soonest.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 14, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

General Ewell and General Alexander state that the force in front of Chaffin's farm is considerably increased in the last day or two.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, N. C., December 14, 1864—11 p. m.

Captain MCAFEE,
Kenansville:

March back with your command and report to Colonel Lipscomb.
By command of Major-General Whiting:

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., December 15, 1864.

Hon. SAMUEL J. PERSON,
Raleigh, N. C.:

MY DEAR SIR: The pressure of official business, together with indisposition, has prevented an earlier acknowledgment of your letter of the 12th ultimo. I am informed by it that, in a recent visit to Wilmington, General Vance stated publicly in conversation, in substance, that the safety of Wilmington had been jeopardized by sending out armed vessels from that port, and that any attack which might be made would be referable to that cause; that General Lee, General Beauregard, Mr. Benjamin, General Whiting, Mr. Attorney-General Davis, and himself, concurred in the opinion that such enterprises were of no benefit and positively injurious to us by affording a special motive under popular pressure at the North to close the port,

and that against the opinion of all of them, and the protest of some, himself among the number, I had sustained Mr. Mallory in the unwise policy. Experience has taught me to expect of General Vance unjust construction of my conduct, and I should hardly deem it worthy my while to attempt any correction in the present instance if he alone were concerned. But as his statements seem to have made some impression upon you, and as you intimate that you may possibly deem it your duty, as a member of the Legislature, to introduce resolutions upon the subject, I am unwilling you should take that course under any erroneous impression of my motives and conduct, or of the facts of the case. By what authority Governor Vance has invoked to his support the names and influence of the gentlemen you mention, I am not informed. That his representation is not correct in respect to the Secretary of State and the Attorney-General I know, and I have reason to believe that it is equally incorrect as regards General Beauregard and General Lee. The question as to the expediency of the sending out our cruisers from Wilmington is simply a question whether or not we shall cease from effort to harass and weaken the enemy by the destruction of his commerce. Wilmington is now the only port available to us, and a greater service could hardly be rendered to the enemy than to seal it up for warlike purposes. The Alabama and Florida alone sufficed to destroy or drive from the ocean three-fourths of the merchant marine of the enemy engaged in foreign commerce, and one of their prominent journalists has publicly confessed that "already the carrying trade has pretty much passed out of their hands." These noble ships are lost to us now and they cannot be replaced in Europe, all our exertions to procure war vessels from foreign ports having, for two years passed, been rendered fruitless by the direct interference of the governments.

The Tallahassee and the Chickamauga, not having been constructed as ships of war, could render little, if any service in defending Wilmington, and if these and similar vessels may not be employed as cruisers the ocean will soon be white with the sails of Yankee merchantmen, giving new impetus to the commerce of the enemy and fresh energy to his resources. And, sir, while the Federal Government is contending before all European courts for a recognition of the principle, as a part of the international law, that all of our cruisers which do not sail from Confederate ports are pirates, it would be indeed a singular spectacle for history to present if the Legislature of North Carolina should be striving to close against them the only Confederate port from which it is possible for them to sail. It is a mistake to suppose that the sending out of the cruisers from Wilmington has had any material effect upon the stringency of the blockade. The importance of that port to us is as well known to our enemies as to ourselves, and their efforts to close it have always been in direct proportion to their means. That the force of the blockading squadron has been from time to time increased, is referable solely to the fact that as the war progressed the increase of their navy and the capture of Confederate ports rendered a greater number of armed ships available to them for that purpose. In fact, one object in sending out the cruisers has been to weaken the efficiency of the blockade by drawing off the fastest vessels of the squadron in pursuit of them, at a time when valuable cargoes were expected to arrive, a result in which the expectation of the Government has not been disappointed. Our records prove that since the last cruise of the Tallahassee and the Chickamauga a larger number of steamers has succeeded in entering our ports than ever

before during the same space of time. You are aware that the attempt is generally made during those periods only when the moon is favorable. And during the fortnight intervening between the 20th of November and the 5th of December twelve steamers entered the port of Wilmington alone, averaging nearly one per day. Is it because he supposes that the immunity from attack which Wilmington has hitherto enjoyed is due to the kind forbearance of our enemies, that Governor Vance discourages all attempts against their commerce for fear of enraging them? That such a consideration should operate upon the fears of some of those who have no interest in our cause beyond the millions which they are accumulating by the successful running of the blockade might have been anticipated. But that it should be seriously urged as a policy of war by men whose patriotism and intelligence are beyond question, is to me a matter of no little surprise. Our only hope of peace, beyond the achievements of our noble armies in the field, must lie in making the burden of the war oppressive to the people of the North. Under such a policy as that referred to, how is the shipping interest to be made to feel those burdens? Or is it to be left in undisturbed security to wield all its wealth, power, and influence for our destruction? That Wilmington has not hitherto been attacked is owing to the fact that to overcome her natural and artificial defense would require the withdrawal of too large a force from operations against points which [they] deem more vital to us. If that cause should ever cease to exist we may expect their fleets and armies at the mouth of the Cape Fear.

I observe that in treating of this subject in his message to the Legislature, Governor Vance has declared inferentially that the only work accomplished by the cruisers has been to "destroy a few insignificant smacks, which only serves to irritate the enemy." It would have been well if he had taken a little pains to inform himself as to the facts before giving utterance in a grave State paper to a statement so very inaccurate. The Tallahassee alone, during her two cruises, captured 40 vessels of all classes, from the New York and London packet of 1,500 tons to the small coasting schooner. The value of these vessels and their cargoes is estimated at from $800,000 to $1,000,000 specie. This is the direct result, and it is small in comparison with the indirect injury inflicted on the enemy, arising from the uncertainty of their coastwise trade, increase in the rates of insurance, withdrawal of vessels, &c.

In conclusion, my dear sir, permit me to remark that the difficulties with which this Government has to contend in opposing with its limited resources the devastating tide of invasion which the power of our enemy is pouring upon us would be great enough under any circumstances and with the most united and harmonious action of our whole people. But those difficulties have been materially increased by the persistent interference of some of the State authorities—legislative, executive, and judicial—hindering the action of this Government, obstructing the execution of its laws, denouncing its necessary policy, impairing its hold upon the confidence of the people, and dealing with it rather as if it were the public enemy than the Government which they themselves had established for the common defense and which was their only hope for safety from the untold horrors of Yankee despotism. And if, now, gentlemen like yourself, [who] are true friends to the Government and the cause, shall from any misapprehension indirectly lend their countenance to these unhappy differences it is easy to foresee the sad and disastrous results which must ensue.

I am, my dear sir, very respectfully and truly, yours,

JEFF'N DAVIS.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 297. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE, *Richmond, December 15, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

XVI. The company commanded by Capt. W. E. Hinton, now serving as provost guard of General Dearing's brigade, is accepted by the War Department with its present organization. It is hereby transferred to and will form a part of the Tenth Regiment Virginia Cavalry.

* * * * * * *

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 15, 1864.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

One of a cavalry picket was caught on the Darbytown road this morning. He was placed on picket yesterday morning. Up to that time he had heard nothing of Gregg's cavalry. Scouts are just in, who report no change or increase of enemy's strength. Captured men belonged to Kautz's division.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
December 15, 1864.

Maj. R. P. DUNCAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: In my opinion, there is no command of equal strength in the service which could be placed in the position of this division and supply, with its limited transportation, the necessary subsistence, quartermaster stores, forage, fuel, and timber for protection of men and the improvement and repair of defensive works on the line. It is demonstrated that with the transportation of this command we can do nothing toward hauling timber for our works. Under these circumstances, I beg leave to suggest the two following expedients, either of which may, perhaps, be adopted: First, relieve one-half of this division by half of some other one, and let the halves of these two divisions not in the line be located in woods, where they can get fuel without hauling, then apply the transportation of these two divisions as far as possible to supply the two halves of divisions in the line; or, second, furnish from the whole army enough transportation to haul timber to my command on the line as it now is, and thus supply the deficiency which we now labor under, and on account of which men are suffering and works are delayed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

PETERSBURG, *December 16, 1864.*
(Received 10.10 a. m.)

COMMANDING OFFICER RODES' DIVISION:
(Care of Captain Mayo.)

Proceed to camp between Ashton and Swift Creeks, Chesterfield, by railroad or turnpike, as most convenient.

R. E. LEE.

TRANSPORTATION OFFICE, QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT,
Richmond, December 16, 1864.

Brig. Gen. B. GRIMES,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: Upon arrival of the next train please march your troops to the Richmond and Petersburg depot, where transportation has been provided for 1,500 men, to leave at or about 2 p. m., if they get here in time. Another detachment of 500 more can leave about 6 p. m. The remainder will be forwarded as soon after arrival as the trains taking the first can return. The horses must march. Wagons have been sent for the ammunition and baggage, to go over with the first detachment. Capt. F. T. Forbes, acting commissary of subsistence, on Fourteenth, between Cary and Canal, is prepared to issue any rations you may require. Please so arrange that issuing of the same will not delay the troops.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

P. H. MAYO,
Captain and Assistant Quartermaster.

WILMINGTON, *December 16, 1864—10.35 p. m.*

Colonel LIPSCOMB,
Masonborough:

Direct all the reserves under your command to march to Camp Whiting, and report to Colonel Connally.

By command of Major-General Whiting:

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 16, 1864—11.05 p. m.*

Colonel LIPSCOMB,
Masonborough:

Send the section of Southerland's battery back to Sugar Loaf. Direct Company K, Tenth North Carolina Regiment, to march to town and report to Major Reilly. Transportation has been ordered to bring their effects.

By command of Major-General Whiting:

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR PETERSBURG, *December 17, 1864.*

His Excellency JEFFERSON DAVIS,
President of the Confederate States, Richmond:

Mr. PRESIDENT: Scouts reported yesterday, upon the faith of citizens from City Point, that the First and Third Divisions of the Nineteenth Corps had arrived at that place. On the 14th instant General William H. F. Lee reported that Gregg's division of cavalry had, on the previous evening, marched in that direction, but I have not heard of its having crossed the James River. Scouts on the north side, sent expressly to ascertain, state that he has not crossed and that there has been no increase of force on that side. I think it probable, therefore, that Gregg has gone in the vicinity of City Point to be near his depot of forage and to recruit his horses after their late expedition. General Early reports that none of the enemy's cavalry has left the Valley, and he thinks that the Eighth Corps is on the railroad. For want of forage and provisions he could not advance, and intended to fall back to Harrisonburg. Grant appears to be concentrating his army here. They are still working on the canal at Dutch Gap, and at present I see no indications of an advance, though if this mild weather continues he will probably make one. The movement of the enemy on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad I fear will interrupt its use again. It had just been repaired. They seem to have gotten behind Breckinridge, but I hope he may be able to intercept them.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

P. S.—Since writing the above one of my best scouts reports that two divisions of the Nineteenth Corps have arrived at City Point, and that Gregg is at City Point. Rodes' division arrived last evening, and is encamped on Swift Creek, Chesterfield.

R. E. L.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *December 17, 1864.*

His Excellency President DAVIS:

After a conference with General Beauregard I determined, as he had no duty to assign me, to return under the authority of your dispatch and resume the command of this department.

B. BRAGG.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Wilmington, December 17, 1864.*

The command of this military department is resumed.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 18, 1864. (Received 3.30.)

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR:

Dispatch just received through Colonel Gaillard at Weldon, stating enemy's fleet left Old Point 9 a. m. 16th for Wilmington, consisting of Colorado and Wabash, painted white, with Confederate flag, with troops under deck, two double-turreted monitors, one high-turreted monitor,

two double-enders, eleven iron-clads, twelve mortar boats, the remainder transports, there being in all eighty-five steamers. The land force of 20,000 under Butler, the naval force under Lee and Porter; also 10,000 men, mostly negroes, left Fort Monroe at same time for New Berne, under General Palmer; 2,000 left Norfolk same time, with six pieces of artillery, under Major Gates, for Weldon, to form junction with troops from New Berne. It states General Foster has been re-enforced so as to form junction with Sherman; and two army corps, under Couch, have left Fort McHenry to re-enforce Thomas; and that Grant has united Sheridan's forces with his own to attack here. The whole is exaggerated and improbable, but may contain some truth.

R. E. LEE.

WILMINGTON, *December 18, 1864.*

Governor VANCE,
Raleigh:

A very large fleet, very formidable, under Porter, with very large land force, 20,000, under Butler, left Fortress Monroe on Friday to attack Wilmington. The advance squadron is already at Beaufort.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 18, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

The fleet left Old Point Friday for Wilmington, Wabash and Colorado in advance, painted white, with Confederate flag. Troops concealed under deck. Two double-enders, eleven iron-clads, five torpedo raisers, twelve mortar-boats, the remainder transports, there being eighty-five in all, and all steamers. The land forces to consist of 20,000 men under Butler, the naval forces under Admirals Lee and Porter; 10,000 land forces left Fortress Monroe at same time for New Berne.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

Abstract from field return of the troops in Western District of North Carolina, Brig. Gen. J. G. Martin commanding, for December 18, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Pieces of field artillery.
	Officers.	Men.				
Col. J. B. Palmer's command (Mountain District)	88	1,187	1,244	1,405	2,114	7
Major Erwin's battalion Senior Reserves	8	29	32	43	112	.....
Total	96	1,216	1,276	1,448	2,226	7

No return from Thomas' Legion since September 1, 1864. Within the past two weeks the remainder of the legion, numbering about 100 men, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Love, has returned to this command from Northern Virginia. No return from Major Erwin within the last two weeks. Brig. Gen. B. T. Johnson has assumed command of the prison guard at Salisbury, N. C.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., December 19, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

The following dispatch just received from General B[eauregard]:

SAVANNAH, *December 18, 1864.*

General Sherman demanded the surrender of Savannah yesterday of General Hardee, which was refused. The city must be evacuated soon as practicable. The loss of Savannah will be followed by that of the railroad from Augusta to Charleston and soon after of Charleston itself. Cannot Hoke's and Johnson's divisions be spared for defense of South Carolina and Georgia until part of or whole of Hood's army could reach Georgia?

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

I cannot realize the consequences as portrayed, but General Bragg, who has just returned, if you can have a conference with him, may furnish you facts with which you can better judge. Let me have your advice, and, if you choose, communicate with General Beauregard.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 19, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, Petersburg:

Your dispatch* of 11.45 last night is received and General Hoke's division is ordered to be ready, as I have no better troops. I cannot suggest any change, unless Wilmington is garrisoned strongly enough to allow us time to try and get at the enemy here. It may be necessary, too, to be more prompt in our movements, to meet those of General Grant, than we have been heretofore.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 19, 1864.

Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The Herald of Saturday, 17th, just received. It contains, under the [head] of correspondence from Fortress Monroe, the news that the combined military and naval expedition of Major-General Butler and Admiral Porter sailed from that place on the 13th instant. The strength of the expedition is spoken of as being large. Part of the expedition was passed at sea on the 14th.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 19, 1864—11.55 p. m.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Commanding Division:

You will move one of your brigades at daylight in the morning to the Danville railroad depot in Richmond. Your other brigades will

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*Not found.

move to the same point as soon as transportation can be procured for them. I will notify you at what time this will be. General Kershaw will relieve you at daylight. General Lee wishes you to meet him with General Longstreet, at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning, at his quarters in Richmond. General Longstreet will leave Mr. Randolph's house at 7.30 o'clock.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., December 19, 1864.

General BRAXTON BRAGG,
Wilmington, N. C.:

General Lee communicates as a report, which he deems probably exaggerated, that enemy's fleet left Old Point 9 a. m. 16th for Wilmington, consisting of Colorado and Wabash, painted white, with Confederate flag, with troops under deck, two double-turretted monitors, one high-turretted monitor, two double-enders, eleven iron-clads, twelve mortar-boats, the remainder transports, there being in all eighty-five steamers. The land force of 20,000 under Butler, the naval force under Lee and Porter.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

WILMINGTON, *December 19, 1864.*
(Received 10.50 p. m.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

Information seems reliable of formidable attack here. The troops ordered away cannot return; if not helped, the forts may be turned and the city goes. The reduced garrisons are not able to hold this extended position without support.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 20, 1864—12.10 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW,
Commanding Division:

You will relieve General Hoke's division at daylight this morning. Be particular in having your troops on Hoke's front at daylight, as General Hoke is ordered to move out at that time.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 20, 1864—3.40 a. m.

Maj. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW,
Commanding Division:

But one of General Hoke's brigades will move this morning. You will therefore relieve him by but one of your brigades. Move it down at the time I previously ordered. The other brigades of your division will not be required to move to-day.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW,
Commanding Division:

Another one of Hoke's brigades will march at daylight to-morrow morning. You will have one of your brigades on his line to relieve it at that time.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 20, 1864—3.30 a. m.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Commanding Division:

But one of your brigades can be taken to-day on the cars, and one can be carried to-morrow morning, and the other the day after. The men will be shipped on the Manchester side of the road and the horses on the Richmond side. Arrangements have been made to carry about fifteen horses to the brigade. You will relieve but one brigade this morning; the other will remain in camp and only move as they can be taken on the cars. General Kershaw, who relieves you, has been instructed to this effect. You can admit the ladies, whose passes are inclosed, into our lines. Let the flag be received by the same officer who received it yesterday, and let no change be visible in your line when the flag approaches.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 20, 1864.

Maj. Gen. R. F. HOKE,
Commanding Division:

Arrangements are made to move another one of your brigades to-morrow morning. General Kershaw will have a brigade on your line to relieve the brigade you send off at daylight, at which time you will order it to march for the Danville depot in Richmond. All of your details have

been ordered in, and so far as I can control you will carry every member of your command with you. If I have omitted any, you will please call my attention to the omission and I will give the necessary orders to secure your having the last man of your command along with you.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 20, 1864—10 a. m.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Richmond, Va.:

The head of the enemy's fleet arrived off this point last night. Over thirty steamers are now assembling and more are following.

B. BRAGG.

(Copies sent to the President, Secretary of War, and Adjutant-General.)

WILMINGTON, *December 20, 1864.*

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:

No disposition made as yet by the enemy to attack on land. The weather is unfavorable to a landing on the outside of the bar now.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

RICHMOND, VA., *December 20, 1864.*

General B. BRAGG,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Yours of this date received. Hoke's division is under orders to re-enforce you. One brigade has gone. The rest will follow as rapidly as railroad transportation permits.

JEFF'N DAVIS.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 20, 1864.

General BRAGG,
Commanding Department of North Carolina:

GENERAL: On my way to observe the enemy off New Inlet, I beg leave to make a few suggestions, in case anything should delay or prevent my speedy return. I think the citizens should be notified of the imminence of attack, that all business should be suspended except that of transportation and that purely connected with the defense. It should be decided what is preferable to save and that at once, for stripped as we are of forces, we shall have little time before the enemy will be upon the city.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 20, 1864.*

Colonel CONNALLY,
Masonborough:

There are twenty-eight vessels off Fort Fisher; be in readiness. Send a good officer down the military road toward Sugar Loaf with couriers, to reconnoiter and report to you. Be ready to move along the coast to oppose a landing wherever the enemy may make it.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 20, 1864—10 a. m.*

Colonel LAMB,
Fort Fisher:

The Pelteway will be down with ammunition and provisions. Have the laboring force ready to leave the works at Ramseur and Sugar Loaf. I am coming down the river to-day on Cape Fear. Keep your reports. Signal me on board if anything new.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

Proclamation of Governor Vance, of North Carolina.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the long expected attack upon our only remaining sea-port is now about to be made, and our State is also likely to be invaded at other points by an enemy to whom mercy and civilization are alike unknown and unregarded; and

Whereas all the organized forces of the State already ordered to the front may still be insufficient to roll back the tide which threatens us with worse than death, and to drive from our doors a fate horrible to contemplate: Now, therefore,

I, Zebulon B. Vance, Governor of the State of North Carolina, relying upon the loyalty and devotion of her citizens, do issue this my proclamation, commanding and adjuring all good people, whether by law subject to military duty or not, who may be able to stand behind breastworks and fire a musket, of all ages and conditions, to rally at once to the defense of their country and hurry to Wilmington; and I do appeal to every man who has the spirit of a freeman in his bosom, who has a spark of the fire or a drop of the blood of the heroes of the great army of the great captain in his veins, to come and come at once. The man who hangs back now because the law does not compel him to go, and consoles himself with the much-abused and mean-spirited plea that he can be more useful at home, will find it hard to make us believe that he is not pleading the cause of cowardice or disloyalty. The country needs their help now, and that help must be given in the hour of distress, or they must own that their souls are only fitted to enjoy the freedom purchased with other men's blood. For a few days all men physically able are needed at the front, and especially do we need the example of all those who aforetime panted for the fray while it was yet at a distance, and snuffed the battle while it was yet afar off. Let every man

physically able then hurry with his blanket to Wilmington, where arms and rations will be furnished, and let those left behind mount themselves and patrol their counties, looking after the women and children and preserving order. Your Governor will meet you at the front and will share with you the worst.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State. Done at our city of Raleigh on December 20, 1864.

[L. S.] ZEBULON B. VANCE.

By the Governor:

M. S. ROBINS,
Private Secretary.

Abstract from field return of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee commanding, for December 20, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
First Army Corps (Longstreet):				
Staff	15	.....	15	17
Pickett's division	469	6,365	8,098	12,113
Field's division	443	4,576	6,176	11,789
Hoke's division	416	5,517	6,557	11,929
Kershaw's division	329	3,552	4,694	10,846
Total	1,672	20,010	25,540	46,694
Second Army Corps (Gordon):				
Rodes' division	216	3,056	4,124	12,576
Early's division	164	2,406	3,055	8,281
Gordon's division	211	2,717	3,462	13,158
Total	591	8,179	10,641	34,015
Third Army Corps (Hill):				
Staff	19	.....	19	20
Mahone's division	398	4,544	6,205	12,836
Heth's division	403	4,905	6,109	12,590
Wilcox's division	426	5,825	7,277	11,908
Total	1,246	15,274	19,700	37,354
Lieut. Gen. R. H. Anderson's corps:				
Johnson's division	529	6,692	8,191	13,226
Cavalry Corps (Hampton):				
Staff	11	.....	11	16
Hampton's division	160	2,431	3,463	7,948
W. H. F. Lee's division	178	3,592	4,424	6,560
Horse Artillery	3	109	120	145
Total	352	6,132	8,018	14,669
Artillery Corps (Pendleton):				
Staff	5	7	12	12
First Army Corps	95	2,197	2,539	3,283
Third Army Corps	127	2,030	2,450	3,406
Anderson's corps	62	956	1,178	1,658
Total	289	5,190	6,179	8,359
First Military District (Wise)	100	520	725	1,057
Provost Guard (Bridgford)	22	239	311	385
Grand total	4,801	62,236	79,305	155,759

Abstract from field return of the Cavalry Division, Maj. Gen. Matthew C. Butler commanding, for December 20, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.
	Officers.	Men.		
Headquarters	5	.....	5	7
Butler's brigade	40	940	1,345	2,763
Young's brigade	57	586	873	2,668
Dearing's brigade	55	843	1,168	2,416
Battery Horse Artillery	3	62	72	94
Total	160	2,431	3,463	7,948

Serviceable horses, 2,135; unserviceable, 637.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 21, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, Petersburg:

I would suggest that you order General Whiting, if you have not already done so, to hold his position as long as he has a man. If his guns are knocked down, to hold on with his infantry and field batteries. I fancy that troops in forts place all of their reliance upon their heavy guns, hence their despondency and disposition to give up when they find that they have lost them. If they are prepared for such an emergency beforehand, they will meet it as they should. It may also be well to suggest to General Whiting the propriety of halting General Colquitt's brigade, which leaves to-day, at Goldsborough, to protect the bridge near there until the other brigades have passed it. If this weather continues I should think that we might spare another division, if necessary, as the roads will soon become impracticable for flank movements, and our lines ought to be strong enough to enable us to hold them against any direct attack.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
December 21, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding:

I desire to suggest that instead of allowing your dismounted cavalrymen to disperse and go to their homes during the winter months, they be organized into companies, &c., and put into the trenches, or mount themselves on mules Mules, I believe, will do as well for cavalry service in the winter months as horses. Whilst on the subject of organization, I would also suggest that you take the matter in hand and arrange our entire system, beginning with the department of conscription. We still have it in our power to organize and put out handsome armies in the spring, if we will only go to work with proper feeling and spirit. I fear that too much time will be taken up in con-

sidering the past unless you take the matter in hand and give our minds the right direction. I think that it would be well, if it can be so arranged, to relieve Pickett's division from the trenches by some of the troops from the Valley, as his is one of our most reliable divisions—it would probably be of more use operating against any move upon our flank than a like number of the troops from the Valley; it would also be in reserve for the center of our lines if needed there.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW,
Commanding Division:

The remaining two brigades of Hoke's division will go off before daylight to-morrow morning. You will move the rest of your command down to Hoke's line to relieve them this evening, so as to give Hoke's men time to prepare for their journey and prevent any delay in getting off to-morrow morning. You will please order a guard of eleven men and a non-commissioned officer to report to General Longstreet's quarters (at Mr. Randolph's house, on Osborne road) to-day, to relieve a guard there from Hoke's division.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

General Field will relieve Clingman's brigade on Hoke's extreme left this evening, so as to assist you in covering the front recently occupied by Hoke. You will dispose your division along the rest of Hoke's line. General Longstreet desires you to have all the pits in your front arranged after the manner of those on that part of the line recently occupied by Kirkland's brigade.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 21, 1864.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD,
Commanding Division:

You will relieve Clingman's brigade, of Hoke's division (on Hoke's left, on the Darbytown road), this evening, so as to enable that brigade to get ready to go off before daylight to-morrow morning. You can do this either by moving the whole of your command to the right far enough to throw one brigade across the Darbytown road or by moving your left brigade over to your right and across the Darbytown road. This latter move would appear more advisable, as it would cause but one brigade to change quarters. General Longstreet wishes you to have all the pits on your line arranged in a similar manner to those on that part of the line recently occupied by General Kirkland's brigade.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 21, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL,
Commanding Department:

Owing to the removal of General Hoke's large division and the substitution of Kershaw's small division in its place, it will not be possible to assist you on the right of Fort Gilmer to the extent intended. General Kershaw will be ordered to put two regiments to the right of the fort, but they will be small ones.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 21, 1864.

Captain JAMES,
Chief Engineer, Wilmington:

CAPTAIN: I wish you to take the disabled blockade-running steamer North Heath, and, removing what is valuable on her and readily taken out, tow her to the New Inlet Rip to serve as an obstruction. You will be careful to have an experienced pilot to designate the best place to lay the ship. Great care should be taken to sink her in such a position as to make the channel impracticable, at the same time interfering as little as possible with the flow of the current. She must not be put athwart channel, but with her stern and stem nearly with the flow of the tide. I think she could be placed just beyond the rip so as to be a fixture, and yet thoroughly to block the entrance. You will request the assistance of Lieutenant Chapman, commanding Battery Buchanan. I wish this executed at once. In addition, you will take the river and log obstructions which are ready and have Keith place them to completely block the rip. Examine the old passage near Zeek's Island; that may need some work. Let Captain Kerrigan prepare his self-acting torpedoes, and as soon as the North Heath is placed put fifteen or twenty in the vicinity. Care should be taken not to interfere with the galvanic torpedoes laid down by Lieutenant Jones.

Very respectfully,
W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

Respectfully referred to the general commanding department for approval.

The measure is essential to the defense and has long been contemplated. There can be no security against the passage of fleets without obstructions, and no consideration should be allowed to interfere with the execution of the same. The major-general commanding the district and charged with the defenses of Wilmington would not consider it necessary to refer this measure, but would execute it at once, did it not require the approval of a department commander. The means proposed are the most ready, the most effectual, and the most easily got rid of when required.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[Second indorsement.]

OFFICE OF NAVAL CONSTRUCTOR,
Wilmington, December 21, 1864.

I consider the obstructions herein ordered to be essential to the security of the river.

R. F. PINCKNEY,
Captain, &c.

[Third indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, December 21, 1864.

Approved.
By order of General Bragg:

F. S. PARKER,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SPECIAL ORDERS, } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
No. 303. } *Richmond, December 22, 1864.*

* * * * * * *

V. The Twenty-second Battalion Virginia Volunteers is hereby disbanded. The men composing it will be distributed among the depleted Virginia organizations under the direction of the commanding general. The commissions of the officers of the battalion are vacated, to take effect from this date.

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By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., December 22, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

Doctor Morris reports, as received from his operator at Gordonsville, dated 12 o'clock, that the enemy were at Jack's Shop, slowly advancing.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., December 22, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

The following dispatch was received from the operator at Gordonsville at 3 p. m.:

The enemy are in twelve miles of Gordonsville. It is said they number 6,000, commanded by Generals Torbert, Powell, and Duffié. We are fighting them now near Jack's Shop. Our main force is at Liberty Mills, seven miles from Gordonsville, where we have intrenched position. If they do not divide their forces we will be able to resist them. Our forces are under Generals McCausland and Jackson, and only number 1,300 men.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 22, 1864. (Received 6 p. m.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

Longstreet is sending re-enforcements to Gordonsville. Please expedite them.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, Petersburg:

I can send Field's division if I can get Pickett's to replace it. I think that it will be very hazardous to attempt to hold this line without at least one good division to move along the line to meet any movement of the enemy. I think, however, that our best move would be to send Pickett's and hold his lines by the troops that are less reliable for meeting movements of the enemy. If you desire it I have no objections to going with the detachment.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

Hunton's and Bratton's brigades are ordered to Gordonsville, with three days' rations. Your commissary should make arrangements to supply them at the end of three days. Rodes' division is ordered up to camp on Proctor's Creek.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

General R. E. LEE:

Is there field artillery at Gordonsville? I shall send three brigades of infantry. There should be cavalry and artillery for their assistance. We cannot expect important service from the detachment unless it is in proper hands. Will the officer sent from here be in command after he reaches Gordonsville?

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864—9 p. m.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding:

Your telegrams* received. Major Boyle has been notified that re-enforcements are coming.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

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* Not found.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

Maj. C. BOYLE,
Provost-Marshal, Gordonsville:

Inform Generals McCausland and Jackson that re-enforcements will be up to-morrow.

O. LATROBE,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. E. TAYLOR,
Chief Quartermaster, First Army Corps,
Corner house of Governor and Capitol Streets, Richmond:

The two brigades are ordered to be in town at midnight. You will have the transportation ready without fail. General Longstreet wishes the troops to be at Gordonsville by daylight.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864—10 p. m.

Maj. E. TAYLOR,
Chief Quartermaster, First Army Corps,
Corner house of Governor and Capitol Streets, Richmond:

Bratton's brigade is on its way to the depot; will be there by midnight; also Hunton's. These troops must be at Gordonsville by daylight. There will be in all about 3,300.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. B. KERSHAW,
Commanding Division:

You will arrange to send two regiments of your division to the right of Fort Gilmer to relieve the troops of General Ewell on that part of the line. General Hoke was about to send two of his regiments to that point, when he was ordered off. You had better ride down and inspect the position before you move your regiments.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
Petersburg, December 22, 1864.

OFFICER COMMANDING RODES' DIVISION:

March your command by the shortest route to the pontoon bridge at Chaffin's and report to General Longstreet on the north side. Obey any orders you may receive from him while on the way.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

OFFICER COMMANDING RODES' DIVISION:

Lieutenant-General Longstreet directs that you halt your command on Proctor's Creek, between Drewry's Bluff and the railroad. You will select a position as much concealed as possible from the view of the enemy. You will report the whereabouts of your camp to Major-General Pickett and to these headquarters.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT,
Commanding Division:

You will immediately relieve Hunton's brigade and order it to cook three days' rations, and prepare for a trip of a week. Send an officer to halt Rodes' division, which is moving across to the pontoon bridge over the James, and order it to camp on Proctor's Creek, between the railroad and Drewry's Bluff, in the most concealable place they can find. Please acknowledge receipt of this.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864—6 p. m.

Major-General PICKETT:

General Hunton will march as soon as he can get his rations cooked to the Central railroad depot, in Richmond, where transportation will be in readiness to take him to Gordonsville. General Bratton's brigade, of Field's [division], is also going to the same place, and will probably get off before Hunton's. On reaching Gordonsville General Hunton will take command of all the troops he may find there. The enemy, with about 4,000 cavalry and four pieces of artillery, are supposed to be making for Gordonsville. General Hunton will hold the place, and if circumstances admit will operate against them by pursuing or attacking. The troops will be gone about a week, and will leave guards in charge of property left behind in camp. Notify me when Hunton will reach Richmond. The greatest expedition is necessary. You can use part of Rodes' division to hold the line Colonel Mayo is now holding. Acknowledge receipt of this.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864—8.30 p. m.

Major-General PICKETT,
Commanding Division:

As General Hunton is on leave you will send General Corse up to Gordonsville to take charge of both Hunton's and Bratton's brigades

when they reach there. The enemy were fighting McCausland's and Jackson's cavalry, twelve miles from Gordonsville, this afternoon. It is absolutely necessary that your troops should march at once and be at Gordonsville by daylight. Everything depends on your promptness. The transportation will be ready at midnight. General Corse will communicate with, and co-operate with, Generals McCausland and Jackson. General Lee directs that the troops be at Gordonsville before day, and that if the enemy has not crossed the Rapidan River, they should march to Liberty Mills. Acknowledge receipt of this.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD,
Commanding Division:

You will order Bratton's brigade to prepare three days' cooked rations at once. and as soon as prepared order General Bratton to march to the Central railroad depot, in Richmond, to take the cars for Gordonsville. General Hunton's brigade, of Pickett's division, is also going to the same place. General Bratton will probably get off first. Arriving at Gordonsville, he will make disposition of his command to hold the place, and, on the arrival of General Hunton, will report to him. A force of the enemy, estimated to amount to about 4,000 cavalry, with four pieces of artillery, is supposed to be operating against Gordonsville. Cars will be ready for Bratton's troops by midnight. They will be gone about a week, and will leave guards in charge of all property left in camp. You can supply Bratton's place in your line in such way as you think most judicious. Notify me of the time they will be able to get off.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 22, 1864—9 p. m.

Maj. Gen. C. W. FIELD,
Commanding Division:

General Lee orders that our troops be at Gordonsville before day; the transportation will be ready at midnight. You will have Bratton's brigade in town by that time. Let Bratton send a staff officer into town at once to notify the railroad authorities of the time the brigade will be there. The enemy were fighting McCausland's and Jackson's brigades of cavalry twelve miles from Gordonsville this afternoon. General Corse will go up to take command of Bratton's and Hunton's brigades when they reach there. When General Bratton arrives he will communicate with and co-operate with McCausland and Jackson. Should the enemy not have crossed the Rapidan River General Lee wishes the troops to march to Liberty Mills. Everything depends on your promptness in getting Bratton off.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 22, 1864.

Captain JAMES,
Chief Engineer, Present:

It is essential to the defense of this port to have means of obstruction which can be readily and rapidly applied at the New Inlet Rip. The most effectual will be to anchor one of the disabled blockade-running ships (saved by the garrison of Fort Fisher), either the Badger or Night Hawk, as may be selected, on the rip stern and stem with the ebb, or nearly so. She can remain at anchor with a guard on board and everything in readiness to sink her at the proper time. In conjunction with this, the river obstructions will be put down on either side of her position, so as effectually to close the entrance to the rip channel. Captain Kerrigan will be instructed to place fifteen to twenty self-acting torpedoes in advance of the obstructions. Care must be taken not to interfere with the galvanic torpedoes; also to sink the steamer with as little damage to her as possible. Application will be made to the commanding officer of Battery Buchanan to put a guard on board and to take charge of placing the steamer in position. You are directed to use all haste in making ready, and will report accordingly.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 22, 1864—11.20 a. m.*

Major HILL:

Nine vessels in sight; one making rapidly toward Masonborough.

J. K. CONNALLY,
Colonel, Commanding.

FORT FISHER, *December 22, 1864—3.45 p. m.*

Major HILL:

There is apparently another fleet off Battery Gatlin about five miles out. The sand is blowing so I cannot tell the character of the vessels. I think there is a frigate among them. The fleet off here does not seem changed.

LAMB,
Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 23, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON:

General Leventhorpe reports the enemy attempted, on the 20th, to land a force at Poplar Point, three miles from Fort Branch, on the Roanoke. The attacking party consisted of three gun-boats and barges loaded with troops. After a combat of three hours they were repulsed with loss. The attack was renewed on 21st and their skirmishers landed, which were attacked and driven to the boats. The gun-boats have resumed the position they occupied previous to their attempt to land troops at Poplar Point

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 23, 1864.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War:*

General Leventhorpe reports that he attacked the enemy's gun-boats yesterday off Poplar Point and drove them away. Our infantry kept up and fought them with determination for four miles. Colonel Whitford, who behaved with great gallantry on the occasion, was slightly wounded.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 23, 1864.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding, Petersburg:*

The last of Bratton's brigade left Richmond at daylight. The first of it has reached Gordonsville. Hunton's brigade has gotten off by this time. All possible expedition was used. Will ascertain if Gregg crosses the river.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 23, 1864.

Major-General PICKETT, *Commanding Division:*

Your report of the movement of five regiments moving toward Fort Harrison has been received. If you discover any indications of a serious move against us on this side order General Grimes over.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 23, 1864.

Col. T. M. LOGAN:

You will keep your scouts out and ascertain and report any movements of the enemy's cavalry from the south side to this side of the James. It is expected that Gregg's division of cavalry will cross the river and endeavor to unite with the cavalry under Torbert near Gordonsville.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Same to Major-General Field.)

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, December 23, 1864.

General CUSTIS LEE, *Chaffin's Bluff:*

The following is just received from General Longstreet: "General Pickett reports five regiments moving toward Fort Harrison." Keep General Ewell informed as to enemy's movements.

By order of General Ewell:

BENJ. S. EWELL,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Richmond, December 23, 1864.

General CUSTIS LEE,
Chaffin's Bluff:

The Secretary of War orders out one-half the men now in bureaus; I wish you to suggest a mode to get them out speedily. If there be no movement of the enemy, had you not better come up in the morning? Come up or not, as you may think best.

By command of General Ewell:

BENJ. S. EWELL,
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 23, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Fleet reported this morning as unchanged in position and numbers. About forty vessels are assembled off New Inlet. Sea has been too rough for any landing outside of the bar so far.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *December 23, 1864.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Richmond, Va.:

The fleet which drew off in the rough weather is again assembled; seventy vessels now in sight on the coast. The advance of the troops only reached here to-night.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

(Copies sent to the President, Secretary of War, and the Adjutant-General.)

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 23, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,
Chief Engineer, Richmond:

GENERAL: We seem to be in the midst of disasters all round. Our position here is very precarious, and as the enemy's fleet are off New Inlet in heavy force, in our present depleted condition it may be carried at any moment unless the enemy delay until Hoke shall have arrived. None of his people have made their appearance yet. The fleet seem to be waiting for smooth water. From various circumstances I fear their plan is one I have been apprehensive of ever since Cushing's memorable exploit of coming in the harbor at night in a small boat—that is, to send in barges the first smooth and dark night with troops over New Inlet bar, land on the beach at Confederate Point, and carry the batteries. It is perfectly feasible with our sadly diminished garrisons, the best men of which were taken to Georgia. The vessels of the enemy

upon such a *coup de main* would follow in with scarce the chance of a shot, and the harbor is gone. In such an event, though the forts of the western entrance might readily hold out until their provisions were exhausted, yet the whole system would be broken, and the best course would be to save the troops. I have always hoped to have a strong garrison for Confederate Point to obviate this danger, together with such a powerful supporting force as would make such an attempt too hazardous for trial, and force an attack from above. But our circumstances have been such that this appears to have been impossible, and we are caught at great disadvantage. It was to prevent any chance of such a movement on the part of the enemy that I ordered from England long since, on my own responsibility, three calcium lights. They have been reported at Bermuda for a month past, but unfortunately have not yet come in. With them in play, we could so illuminate the bar as to enable us to annihilate a boat flotilla.

Many indications lead me to think the enemy have hit upon this plan, so fraught with danger to us and so promising to them, with small risk. The confirmation of the reports of my spy from Norfolk, that heavy frigates, like the Wabash and Colorado, loaded with troops, would form the advance of the attack under Butler. These vessels and other heavy frigates are off here now, and as against this place could only be used as transports. The reported exercising with troops in an immense number of small boats at Norfolk, the presence of Cushing, the knowledge of the enemy of the great diminution of our force, and especially the absence of the usual transports which accompany an expedition destined to make a land attack, are all to me strong indications in favor of such a movement as I have described, which, I must say, is the best they could devise with our present means. A successful *coup de main* would give them at an expense of no very large number of troops a position most formidably secure against any effort of ours to repossess it should we be re-enforced after the event, would completely stop all blockade-running and result inevitably, and at no distant time, in the possession of the Cape Fear River and Wilmington. If they delay till Hoke arrives we have a better chance. We have scraped up every pound of provisions—have about ten days for the troops now here; nothing for Hoke.

There is another course open to the enemy which would eventually produce the same results, but would take more time and trouble as well as cause more loss—that is, to make the landing near Gatlin Battery and take possession of any point on the river above Fisher. This would isolate the forts and, of course, cause their fall from want of supplies, unless we could in the meantime dislodge the enemy. The possession of the Sugar Loaf hills would make them too strong to give much hope of the latter. Either is feasible. I have made such dispositions as have been in my power to arrest this, and am waiting in much anxiety Hoke's arrival. The force here being entirely inadequate, of course I have to weaken some other points. I had prepared one of the partially disabled blockade-running steamers to obstruct the rip at New Inlet, but, as British property, General Bragg declines to seize her; but the enemy know too much to try to pass the forts with their fleet. Depend upon it their troops will be put to open the harbor.

Very truly, yours,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 23, 1864.

Flag Officer PINCKNEY,
Commanding C. S. Naval Forces, North Carolina, Present:

FLAG OFFICER: The general commanding having declined to seize any British vessel for obstructing the Rip, can we have the Chickamauga for that purpose, or the Arctic? I am not satisfied at all that the Arctic will answer as an obstruction, but she should be used if nothing else prevents. If so, will you have her sent down to-day and properly anchored by Lieutenant Chapman. I greatly regret that I cannot have any of the blockade-running steamers in a matter of such vital importance.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 23, 1864.

Brigadier-General HÉBERT,
Commanding, &c., Smithville:

MY DEAR GENERAL: Putting all the information I have together, I am satisfied Fort Fisher is the point threatened, and in its present condition I am exceedingly uneasy about it. I think those heavy ships outside all have troops on board with Butler. It may be that the drilling in boats in great numbers observed by our spy at Norfolk was preparatory for rowing in over the bar at night, *a la* Cushing, landing on Fisher beach and carrying the position, and with that little garrison on so extended a line it could be accomplished with hardly any loss, and then light-draught vessels could follow in without the chance of a shot. Oh, for those calcium lights! This plan, if the enemy have hit upon it—and I have many indications tending to show that they have some such idea—is far more dangerous to us than the other of landing above Fisher, bad as that would be for us, for in the former case, which on any smooth night presents no difficulty, the fort itself would be at once ready for their use against ourselves. We always relied, you know, on having a strong force at Fisher and strong supports to prevent any such *coup de main*, the chances of which we have frequently discussed since Cushing's exploits, but we have almost nothing where there should be a garrison of 2,500 men, with a brigade outside in support. You know what we have. Hoke's troops cannot be completely here for several days and none have arrived yet. Heavy weather may save us, but every night fills me with anxiety. We must do our level best to strengthen that position. You must try and send ten companies of artillerists over there. I will add a part of Connally's force. If we can hold until Hoke arrives all may be well.

Yours, truly,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 23, 1864.*

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

Send Reilly's men over to Fisher to-day. They may go in Cape Fear and be landed at Confederate Point in schooners and in the navy launch.

I am apprehensive that enemy will attempt to cross the bar in boats and carry the position at night by landing on Fort Fisher beach inside. I think they are only waiting for smooth water. This plan, if they have hit upon it, tallies with report of their large number of boats drilling in launches and troops on large frigates. It is most dangerous to us. I shall order some of Connally's force into Fisher to-night. Let Reilly's men take several days' rations with them. If Hoke's people arrive all will be well. Cushing, as well as Butler, in this expedition. Savannah evacuated two days ago. Report to Lamb.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 23, 1864.*

Brigadier-General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

The general directs that you send, if transportation can be had, two companies from Caswell or Bald Head, as most convenient, to Confederate Point on picket duty, with one day's rations. The Pelteway and Cape Fear went to Fisher this morning, and either that is there is ordered to go over for them.

JAMES H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 23, 1864.*

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

The general says he will make arrangements, if nothing happens to-night, to restore the troops he wishes you to send to Fisher. The general says use any steam-boats you may have or can reach by telegraph.

JAS. H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON. *December 23, 1864.*

Colonel LAMB,
Fort Fisher:

Can you put a picket or lookout on the Condor, or can you have a boat-moving picket in case of attempt to run in? Am more afraid of that way of attack than any other. You should have your light battery placed before night for sweeping the beach from inside the breaker toward the Mound. I send re-enforcements to-day, and will get more to-morrow if you are all right to-night. Keep a good lookout. Depend upon it the enemy will not try to pass their fleet except the troops are in front and lead the way in the dark, when it would be easy.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 23, 1864—4.30 p. m.*

Major HILL:

A lookout cannot stay on Condor at high tide. I have no boat fit to picket the bar. The Equator moving between Mound and bar could prevent a surprise. Where is the bread which was to be sent? I have only a supply to 31st. Please send hard-tack.

LAMB,
Colonel.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *December 23, 1864.*

Colonel LAMB, *Fort Fisher:*

By direction of the general either the Pelteway or the Cape Fear will go over to Smithville to report to Brigadier-General Hébert to bring troops to you. I have telegraphed to General Hébert.

JAMES H. HILL,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 23, 1864.*

Captain CHAPMAN, *Battery Buchanan:*

Troops are ordered from the other side of the river to re-enforce Colonel Lamb. The general asks you to assist in disembarking these troops.

J. H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
December 23, 1864.

Colonel CONNALLY, *Sugar Loaf:*

See Colonel Lamb and select a good position for bivouac between Sugar Loaf and Fisher, where the men would have plenty of wood. If the weather is smooth to-night an attempt may be made to cross the bar and carry Fisher from below. Send this afternoon to Colonel Lamb one of your battalions for service in Fort Fisher, and unless you get further orders move your force, leaving a strong picket guard or lookout to the place of bivouac. On a concerted alarm from Colonel Lamb you will move rapidly into the fort with your command. Should, however, your lookouts give notice of landing in force near Gatlin, you can notify Lamb and hasten there. In the daytime you can return to camp if all is right.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 23, 1864.*

Colonel LIPSCOMB, *Masonborough:*

Keep well on the alert. Have your outer pickets well posted above and below you. If you have some reliable men it will be well to send a small party of three or four to the banks to watch. Keep your telegraph office open.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 24, 1864.

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

General Bragg reports that the enemy's fleet moved in about 1 p. m., Ironsides leading, and opened fire on Fort Fisher. A gun-boat last night in pursuing one of our steamers grounded, was abandoned and blown up.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 24, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding Army of Northern Virginia:

Rodes' division ordered to return to Swift Creek at 5 o'clock this evening.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 24, 1864.

Maj. Gen. G. E. PICKETT,
Commanding Division, Hancock's House:

Hunton's brigade has been ordered back from Gordonsville. It will return to its former position. General Grimes will return with Rodes' division to Swift Creek, starting at 5 o'clock this afternoon, unless he receives other orders. Please notify me of his receipt of this order. Hunton will be down some time to-night.

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 24, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. R. S. EWELL,
Commanding Department of Richmond:

In reply to your letter* of this date General Longstreet desires me to say that nearly one-half of his force on this side of the river has been taken away during the past week, and that should the enemy make an attack he will have to fight him with a line about as thin as the one you complain of. He has suggested to General Lee the propriety of keeping some of the troops in reserve on this side of the river.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. LATROBE,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 24, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Every effort is being made through the officers of the subsistence bureau operating in this department to secure supplies, and all my

* Not found.

powers will be exerted to their fullest extent. I fear but little will be received from sea, such reports having gone out from Charleston as will deter vessels from making the attempt. Wind off land, with a calm sea this morning. The fleet still in position and no disposition evinced to attack on the land. One brigade arrived last night. One of the enemy's vessels in a bold pursuit, last night, was grounded, abandoned, and blown up.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

(Copy sent to the President.)

WILMINGTON, N. C., *December 24, 1864—10 p. m.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The bombardment of Fort Fisher was kept up by some fifty vessels, including two monitors, until after sunset, when the enemy withdrew. Our casualties were twenty-three wounded, including two officers. Damage to works and armament slight.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

DECEMBER 24, 1864.

SECRETARY OF WAR:

I send you this as commander department for information. From Charlotte to West bar, 622, effective; this includes Caswell and Campbell, on Oak Island; each ought to be 800. Smith's Island, 725; Pender's, 40; Smithville, 144 reserves; Fisher, including Gatlin, 942; lines twenty-three miles west, 58; city, 510; Masonborough, 618 reserves. Please refer to Colonel Harris, who knows position and development of works. All these, except city and Masonborough, are far apart and cannot aid each other. During last ten days 140 reserves have come in. Fisher alone should have 2,200. Supporting force, nothing.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD MILITARY DISTRICT,
December 24, 1864.

General BRAGG,
Commanding:

Flag-Officer Pinckney goes up this evening in the Chickamauga. Both he and I consider it essential that the Rips be obstructed and at once. I gave orders to-day before I left to the engineer to send down at once what obstructions we have. I depended on placing a steamer. The Arctic is given to us for that purpose, though by no means so effective as what I desired. Please to give every authority in your power to send the Arctic by to-morrow morning, to be placed on the Rips as an obstruction. I send this by the courtesy of Flag-Officer Pinckney. If they do not attack us to-night we will be well. I have directed Connally's force and 500 men from Kirkland as supports to-night. Very little damage done, although fire very heavy.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
No. 14. } *Wilmington, December 24, 1864.*

I. During active operations the general commanding assumes the immediate command of all of the troops in and about Wilmington and its defenses.

II. Maj. Gen. W. H. C. Whiting is assigned to the immediate command of the defenses at and near the mouth of the river.

III. Lieut. Gen. T. H. Holmes, having volunteered his services, will assume the immediate command of the city of Wilmington and its defenses, regulating all matters of interior police and discipline, the issuing of supplies, and the movements of troops arriving.

IV. Maj. Gen. R. F. Hoke, or the senior officer of his division, will command the troops on the sound and the intrenched camp at Sugar Loaf, and will make the necessary dispositions to prevent any landing of the enemy between Masonborough and Fort Fisher.

V. In addition to his duties at headquarters Third Military District, Maj. A. Van der Horst, assistant adjutant-general, will report to Lieutenant-General Holmes for his assistance.

By order of General Bragg:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

DECEMBER 24, 1864.

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

Send up Moore's battery by steamer Cape Fear—guns and men; send horses by road.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

DECEMBER 24, 1864.

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

Cape Fear goes down to-day. Can take the two companies. Leave Pelteway at Fisher to land troops and bring fuel. Sampson goes to Sugar Loaf with forage and rations. Kirkland's brigade (2,050) is marching to Sugar Loaf. Hagood's expected to-day.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

DECEMBER 24, 1864.

Colonel LAMB,
Fort Fisher:

Keep Pelteway to land two companies from Caswell, which will come on Cape Fear, and to bring fuel if necessary. Sampson goes to Sugar Loaf with rations. A signal operator ought to be on the Pelteway.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SMITHVILLE, [*December*] *24, 1864—11.10 a. m.*

General WHITING:

Orders that Pelteway stay at Fisher did not reach there in time to stop her. She is here, and when I give her wood and water will take the two companies from Caswell to Fisher. She will lose nothing by it, as tide is now low.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

DECEMBER 24, 1864.

Lieut. PEMBROKE JONES,
Battery Buchanan:

Don't put self-acting torpedoes on the Rip till further orders. Want to get some obstructions there first.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 24, 1864—7 a. m.*

Major HILL:

Fleet still off. Not light enough to define numbers. Wind west and southwest. Not a vestige left of the vessel that blew up.

W. LAMB,
Colonel, Commanding.

FORT FISHER, [*December*] *24, 1864—9.20 a. m.*

Major HILL:

Boarding officer reports Little Hattie from Nassau, December 20, and E. F. Daniels pilot. The fleet seems to be getting under way.

LAMB,
Colonel.

FORT FISHER, *December 24, 1864—10 a. m.*

Major HILL:

Fleet are about six to seven miles off. I recognize Ironsides and three frigates of Wabash class in the fleet. Please do not take reserves from me; I need them at night, and they cannot stand marching to and from camp. Can't you send me Ezzell's company? I have to have such a heavy picket that it reduces my effective artillerists.

LAMB,
Colonel.

DECEMBER 24, 1864.

Colonel LAMB,
Fisher:

Keep the battalion of reserves that you had last night. Two companies will come from Caswell in Pelteway. If not disturbed to-night, hope all will go well.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

MASONBOROUGH, *December 24, 1864.*

Major HILL:

All quiet. Fourteen vessels in sight this morning.

T. J. LIPSCOMB,
Colonel, Commanding.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 25, 1864—12 m.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

A dispatch from General Bragg, dated 10 p. m. yesterday, states that the bombardment of Fort Fisher was kept up by some fifty vessels, including two monitors, until after sunset, when the ships withdrew. Our casualties were twenty-three wounded, including two officers. Damage to work and armament slight.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS,
December 25, 1864—8.30 p. m. (Received 9.30.)

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

General Bragg reports the enemy made a landing on sea-beach, three miles north of Fort Fisher, about 2 p. m. to-day, and were still landing at 5.30 p. m. General Kirkland's the only troops arrived, except 400 of Hagood's. Transportation on railroad inconceivably slow. Hoke could carry but thirty rounds of ammunition, and Bragg says he has only ten additional. I had understood there was plenty of ammunition at Raleigh; have requested Gorgas to furnish supply. At same rate of travel on railroad, it will be impossible to re-enforce if necessary.

R. E. LEE.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 15. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, December 25, 1864.

Lieut. Col. Archer Anderson, assistant adjutant-general, is announced as chief of the adjutant-general's department at these headquarters.

By order of General Bragg:

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December* [25], *1864—8 a. m.*

General HOLMES:

General Bragg desires you to take care of the expedition on Swansborough, reported by Scout Dickinson, with your home guards.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *December 25, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

The enemy renewed the bombardment from the fleet this morning and continued it until sundown with great vigor. About 1 p. m., under cover of a large fleet, they made a lodgment on the mainland three miles north of Fort Fisher, but one brigade of our troops arrived, and they were unable to cover the front. A prisoner reports the enemy's force as one corps, under Butler. Some of our troops are now coming in, and will move down immediately. The unaccountable delay in forwarding them has been most unfortunate. General Whiting is at Fisher. I shall be with the movable troops early to-morrow.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SUGAR LOAF, [*December*] *25, 1864.*

Lieut. Gen. T. H. HOLMES:

Clingman's brigade will remain [at] Wilmington; all men of Hagood's and Kirkland's will come to Sugar Loaf; Colquitt's will go to Fort Anderson, and detachments to their proper posts.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

[Indorsement.]

Major V[AN DER HORST]:

Clingman's brigade has been ordered to go into camp. Please attend to the rest of the above.

[FORT FISHER,]
December 25, 1864—12.45 p. m.

General BRAGG:

Enemy collecting around the bar; think they will attempt to come in. Firing heavy; casualties so far very few. Garrison under cover waiting for them. We fire but little.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

December 25, 1864—4 p. m.

General BRAGG,
Wilmington:

There are in all four naval officers; forty-two wounded in all this time.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 25, 1864.*
(Via Smithville, 8 p. m.)

General BRAGG:

Our case is very critical. The enemy have landed and are now skirmishing with our troops on the parapet (top of fort). If you can send re-enforcements for Kirkland to attack in the rear we can hold out.

WHITING,
General.

[FORT FISHER,] *December [25], 1864.*

General BRAGG,
Wilmington:

Doctors must be sent down here at once. Doctor Logan must forward surgeons with their implements to attend to men. They are his now, and they are at such different and extreme directions that we must attend to them. The fire is heavy and they cannot be transported. Send doctors down in some steamer to-night to land after dark in case enemy do not come in. I will keep you informed.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 25, 1864—10.30 p. m.*

General WHITING,
Fort Fisher:

You had better draw your regiment of Junior Reserves from Fort Holmes, and with such force as you can get from your other forts make good the defense of Fisher. Troops are moving to Kirkland as fast as they arrive, and I shall join him and push the enemy in the rear. From your well-known gallantry, a successful defense of the works your skill has created is confidently expected.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *December 25, 1864—11.50 p m.*

Major-General WHITING:
(Care General Hébert, Smithville.)

Should it become necessary to evacuate Fort Fisher, Forts Holmes, Caswell, and Campbell must be abandoned also. A sufficient force from them will be left to hold Fort Anderson and prevent the enemy from ascending the river. The balance will march to the city.

FRANK S. PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 25, 1864—2.10.*

General HOLMES,
Wilmington:

Twenty-seven vessels delivering fire very heavily on land front of Fort Fisher, doing little damage. I am not exposing my men and am keeping my ammunition for assault.

W. H. C. WHITING.
Major-General.

FISHER, *December 25, 1864—3.20 p. m.*

General HOLMES:

Fire still very heavy; forty-two casualties so far. I learn that the enemy have taken Battery Anderson. I have ordered General Kirkland to attack them, unless he has received other orders from General Bragg. I suppose General Kirkland keeps headquarters advised of all he can.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 25, 1864.*

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

Send all the men you can to Battery Buchanan immediately. The enemy are attacking us by land.

WHITING,
General.

(Copy to General Bragg.)

SMITHVILLE, *December 25, 1864—11.15 p. m.*
(Received 11.30 p. m.)

Major PARKER,
General Bragg's Staff, Wilmington:

The following just received from steamer Clarendon, which left Fort Fisher about 9 p. m.:

General HÉBERT:

We are in great straits. Enemy have landed, reported in force. Prisoners state we will be attacked to-night by three divisions. Send all the men you can raise by Clarendon to Confederate Point to re-enforce us, if possible with boats to land them.

W. H. C. WHITING.

I have ordered four companies, as before reported, but fear they will not reach there to-night. Raining, very dark, and strong southwest wind.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 25, 1864.*

Captain HAWKS,
Engineer, Wilmington:

The general directs you report at once to General Kirkland at Sugar Loaf.

J. H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Confederate Point, Fort Fisher, N. C., December 25, 1864.

Captain HAWKS:

There is no ammunition to spare here. I am sending for more. Have the enemy got Craig's Landing? What is the state of things on your side? Tell General Kirkland or General Hoke if they can attack we will arrest those fellows between them and us.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

Captain HAWKS:

Six hundred troops are at Fort Anderson and will land at Sugar Loaf immediately.

E. A. KEITH.

DECEMBER 25, 1864.

General WHITING,
Fisher:

Only 625 troops arrived last night. Have been ordered to report to General Kirkland at Sugar Loaf.

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

DECEMBER 25, 1864—5.20 a. m.

General KIRKLAND,
Sugar Loaf:

General Bragg ordered Colonel Connally, with his command, back to you before he reached here. He must be near Sugar Loaf by this time.

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 25, 1864—4 p. m.*

Major VAN DER HORST:

I have about 1,600 men; the enemy have landed and captured Battery Anderson and its garrison; they are still landing along the beach. I am fighting them; my ammunition is very short. Have been telegraphed from Fort Fisher for re-enforcements, but could send none. What shall I do if the enemy land on my left flank?—the road to Wilmington; they will then be in my rear. I ask this, as to fall back before them will involve the loss of Sugar Loaf. I will fight to the last. Answer.

W. W. KIRKLAND,
Brigadier-General.

DECEMBER 25, 1864—12 midnight.

General KIRKLAND,
Sugar Loaf:

A steam-boat with 400 men will leave soon for Sugar Loaf. They will land at Gander Hall, a quarter of a mile this side of Sugar Loaf. Have lights put at that point to guide the boat.

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 25, 1864.*

Major VAN DER HORST:

I wish you would order Utley and Plyer, with their horses, to report to me at Smithville to-day; order them to come by land; tell Utley to lead my horse; before he starts let him see Mrs. Hill. Nearly all the quarters at Fisher are burnt; the fire from the fleet was terrific. Twenty-three casualties at Fisher; five guns disabled; all will be fixed. We go to Fisher at daylight.

J. H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 25, 1864.*

Major VAN DER HORST,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Don't send the couriers and horse until I tell you further.

J. H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR HAMILTON, *December 25, 1864.*

Major PARKER,
Acting Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch received. Will come with all the haste I can with the two regiments and ammunition. I have also to find two regiments of home guards at Goldsborough, which I have ordered to Wilmington by telegraph message. Enemy reported near Jamesville in force.

C. LEVENTHORPE,
Brigadier-General.

SWANSBOROUGH, N. C., *December 25, 1864—10 p. m.*

Capt. JOHN S. FAIRLY,
Aide-de-Camp, Wilmington:

CAPTAIN: I have late intelligence from New Berne and Beaufort. The enemy has re-enforced at New Berne and is going to make a raid, 20,000 strong. I never heard where they were going. There is also an expedition for this place. It was within eight miles of here to-night at 8 o'clock. I will let you know more about it soon.

I am, captain, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. I. DICKINSON.

P. S.—The expedition for this place contains one gun-boat, one flat, and a lot of small boats. These coming up the sound.

D. I. DICKINSON.

WAR DEPARTMENT, C. S. A.,
Richmond, Va., December 26, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg, Va.:

On the urgent request of Generals Custis Lee and Ewell I have ordered out one-half of the local troops that had been recalled by details. It is next to impossible to get the men out, and great inconvenience must result from it. Cannot these local troops be recalled and the short line held by them be manned by extension of the forces on each side? The public service suffers much from their absence.

J. A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 26, 1864.

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

SIR: Your telegraph to-day has been received. I shall be very glad to relieve all the local troops now in the trenches in front of Richmond,

but I don't know where to get troops to replace them with. General Ewell writes that he has now only 800 men to guard a line formerly manned by 2,000. Since the departure of General Hoke the extreme left of our line has had to be in a measure abandoned and the rest very thinly manned. I do not know whether they can be stretched out any farther. I will, however, communicate with General Longstreet and see what can be done. Reports from General Early state that the Eighth Corps had been called from the Valley to General Grant, and it is certain that the enemy's camps in the Valley are much diminished. I have drawn from the Valley all the troops I can, and by his concentration Grant may be meditating an attack. If so, I do not see where I am to get troops to meet him, as ours seem rather to diminish than to increase.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS JOHNSON'S DIVISION,
December 26, 1864.

Major DUNCAN,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I have nothing of interest to report this morning. Seven men deserted to the enemy from Ransom's brigade last night; also four from Wise's and two from Gracie's. One of the deserters from Gracie's brigade was Lieut. R. G. Redwood, Company K, Forty-third Alabama Regiment. The enemy fired a salute about 6.30 o'clock this morning.

The following casualties are respectfully submitted: Gracie's brigade, 1 wounded; Elliott's brigade, 1 wounded.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. R. JOHNSON,
Major-General.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ANDERSON'S CORPS,
December 27, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded.

R. H. ANDERSON,
Lieutenant-General.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS,
December 27, 1864.

Respectfully referred to the Secretary of War, that he may judge of the condition of this army. Scant fare. light clothing, constant duty, no recruits, have discouraged it.

R. E. LEE,
General.

SUGAR LOAF,
December 26, 1864—6 p. m.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

We have reopened communication with Fort Fisher. The damage and loss yesterday slight; no bombardment to-day. The enemy's force is

intrenching where it landed, three miles north of Fort Fisher, under cover of a very large fleet. Our troops having passed the Piedmont road, where all the delay has occurred, are now coming forward rapidly.

BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

(Copy to President Davis.)

CHARLESTON, *December 26, 1864.*

General BRAXTON BRAGG:

The five companies each of the Thirty-sixth and Fortieth North Carolina Troops have been ordered to you when they leave here.

W. J. HARDEE,
Lieutenant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—12 m.*

Flag-Officer PINCKNEY,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Please send gun-boat to patrol between Fisher and Anderson to prevent crossing and annoy enemy's flank by fire at Craig's Landing.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 26, 1864.*

General BRAGG:

I will as soon as possible send a vessel to patrol the river between the points you designate. I have no officer at present whom I can send to you.

R. F. PINCKNEY.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—4 p. m.*

Flag-Officer PINCKNEY,
Wilmington, N. C.:

We have opened communication with Fort Fisher and now hold the river. I would be glad to have the gun-boat down to co-operate, but it should not open fire.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

DECEMBER 26, 1864—12 m.

General BRAGG:

Major Parker's dispatch of yesterday* just received. I am not going to evacuate or give up this place so long as a man is left to stand to his gun. Will instruct General Hébert. We can only be taken by being overpowered. Press their rear.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

*See Parker to Whiting, 11.50 p. m., p. 1307.

We have no transportation here at all. Before I got down here all horses were taken out of the fort. Where they are I don't know. Enemy got them, I suppose. Not a horse in the fort. Please send on a flat to Battery Buchanan two wagons and teams and three courier horses.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Major-General WHITING,
Fort Fisher:

Send Kirkland's ammunition if you do not need it.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 26, 1864—12.30 p. m.*

General BRAGG:

Colonel Lipscomb just in. I send him back with instructions to try and keep communication open. Send me for to-night 500 veteran infantry, the same as were here the other night. I am communicating with Smithville. Just got your dispatch of yesterday. Will not give up or evacuate this place so long as a man is left to stand to his gun. Unless overpowered by heavy boat attack we will hold. It is for that I want re-enforcement to-night. I think enemy are on the beach. Please try and keep up land communication with me by the river or by small boats.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—4 p. m.*

Major-General WHITING,
Fort Fisher:

Colonel Lipscomb has just made a close reconnaissance of enemy's position, and reports that there are not more than 500 men on shore. All concentrated in and about Battery Anderson.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—8 p. m.*

Major-General WHITING,
Fort Fisher:

Enemy are defensive and intrenching. Troops arriving, and our operations probably begin to-morrow.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 26, 1864.*

Major-General WHITING:

MY DEAR FRIEND: You have all my sympathy and gratitude for the noble defense you are making. Bragg left here this morning and said he would attack, so I pray God you may not be overwhelmed. Don't fail to telegraph to me for anything or on any matter in which I can serve you or yours. My whole heart is with you, and I would my body was also.

Sincerely, yours,

T. H. HOLMES.

HEADQUARTERS,
Sugar Loaf, December 26, 1864.

Arms-bearing men present for duty: Kirkland's brigade, 1,478; Hagood's brigade, 720; Connally's brigade, 600; total, 2,798. Second South Carolina Cavalry, 350; Paris' battery (approximated), 125; Southerland's battery (approximated), 125; total, 250; grand total, about, 3,398.

SMITHVILLE, *December 26, 1864—7 a. m.*

Major PARKER:

I have not heard from Major-General Whiting since 10.15 o'clock last night. Have had rain storm, which made it impossible to move the four companies I was to send to Battery Buchanan. Steamer has gone for them now. It is yet raining and thick, although the wind has subsided. Railroad line not working.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 26, 1864—8.40 a. m.*

Major PARKER:

I have ordered the steam ferry-boat Clarendon to go to Fisher and communicate with Major-General Whiting. Fog very thick. No wind. The Clarendon takes up one flat load of shot. She leaves now.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 26, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

Major PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have just received by small boat, by hand of Major Saunders, a dispatch from General Whiting, dated 7.30 a. m. He still holds and says that if you want to save the place the enemy must be driven from his front. Weather still calm and very foggy.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—12 m.*

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

Make dispositions to meet enemy's probable crossing in barges between Battery Lamb and Fort Anderson.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 26, 1864—3 p. m.*

Major PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sugar Loaf:

I have just received written dispatch from Major General Whiting, dated 12 m., which says all right so far and all in good spirits at Fort Fisher. Weather still foggy and no wind.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 26, 1864.*

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

The general has directed the Pelteway to proceed to Smithville, to report to you, to bring ammunition to Fisher. By mistake the Junior Reserves have been kept here. The general says that if to-night is favorable, he will send them to re-enforce Bald Head to-night.

JAMES H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—6.30 p. m.*

Brigadier-General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

Need not make dispositions against attempt to cross men above Fisher.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, December 26, 1864.

Lieut. Gen. T. H. HOLMES,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: General Bragg leaves early this morning for the lines below, and directs that you will take steps to prepare the battery at the obstructions below the city for service, and hold in readiness the obstructions which it is proposed to put down in case the enemy's fleet succeed in passing the forts.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

FRANCIS S. PARKER,
Major and Acting Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—10 a. m.*

General HOLMES:

General Bragg desires small guard at line near Wilmington, with a surgeon, to arrest and examine pretended sick men straggling to rear. Send back all fit for duty.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Everything quiet. No reason for any excitement.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—11.30 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Garrison Fort Gatlin abandoned it without cause. We have reoccupied it. Place every man of it reaching Wilmington in close confinement.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

DECEMBER 26, 1864—11.30 a. m.

General HOLMES:

Please give any information as to progress by rail of Hoke's troops.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—12 m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Send all troops to Gander Hall by boat.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—3.20 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

We have opened communication with Fort Fisher by road on left bank. No enemy between us. Everything in good condition and no cause for alarm or excitement.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—3.30 p. m.*

General HOLMES:

Please say to General Hoke on arrival General Bragg desires to see him here soon as possible.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 26, 1864.*

General BRAGG:

Can I pardon prisoners, deserters, &c., now in confinement and put them in the trenches? They volunteer to go.

T. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Prisoners may be put on duty and promised pardon if they behave well.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—3.45 p. m.*

General HOLMES:

Show General Bragg's last situation dispatch to mayor, to abate excitement.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEFENSES OF WILMINGTON,
December 26, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: Will you please inform me whether General Bragg wishes the home guards that shall arrive to be sent immediately to the front or not? There are now here one regiment of them. I have ordered a light artillery company (from Smithville) to proceed to-morrow to Sugar Loaf. If it is desired by General Bragg that it be stopped, please telegraph me to that effect.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General, Commanding.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—6.20 p. m.*

General HOLMES:

General Bragg desires any home guards arriving to be detained in Wilmington.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 26, 1864.*

General BRAGG:

Four hundred troops to arrive at 9 o'clock this evening and 1,300 at 1 o'clock to-night. Shall they be forwarded to Sugar Loaf as usual? Please answer at once.

T. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

WILMINGTON, N. C., *December 26, 1864.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON, *Sugar Loaf:*

Can I authorize any blockade-runner to go out? Answer.

T. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—8 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES, *Wilmington, N. C.:*

Blockade-runners can go out.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—10 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES, *Wilmington, N. C.:*

Send the troops by steamer to Sugar Loaf as fast as they arrive, and with all possible dispatch.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16. } HDQRS. DEPT. OF NORTH CAROLINA, *Wilmington, December 26, 1864.*

Maj. J. W. Cameron is announced as chief quartermaster of this department.

By order of General Bragg:

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—6 p. m.*

General HOLMES:

Send all my troops to Sugar Loaf immediately on their arrival at Wilmington.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—12.45 p. m.*

Colonel LIPSCOMB,
Second South Carolina Cavalry:

Send in to General Whiting and ask him to communicate situation to us immediately.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—1 p. m.*

Colonel LIPSCOMB,
Second South Carolina Cavalry:

Communicate with Whiting and feel enemy, capturing a prisoner if possible.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Major CAMERON,
Chief Quartermaster, Wilmington, N. C.:

Let Cape Fear make daily trips, until further orders, to Fort Fisher, leaving Wilmington afternoons and Fisher before daylight, so as to escape fire.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 26, 1864.

Maj. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I am instructed to inform you that a dispatch was sent this forenoon to General Bragg from Colonel Leventhorpe, at Hamilton, N. C., to the effect that two of his regiments had been sent to this place via Rocky Mount and Tarborough. Colonel Leventhorpe reports the enemy re-enforcing at Plymouth, and states that the troops can ill be spared, but that he will not recall them without orders from General Bragg. No advices have as yet been received as to the time of their probable arrival.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.,

GRAHAM DAVES,
Aide-de-Camp.

WILMINGTON, *December 26, 1864.*

Col. ARCHER ANDERSON:

Following dispatch from Colonel Pool, Goldsborough, just received and submitted to General Holmes:

General Hoke, with 660 men of Hagood's brigade and North Carolina home guards, have just left. Other trains between this point and Greensborough. Will forward as soon as they arrive.

J. H. SCOTT.

VIRGINIA CREEK, SUGAR LOAF,
December 26, 1864.

Major STRANGE,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The fleet left Beaufort 17th, 18th, and 19th. None there the 23d. Forces at New Berne, 3,000 to 4,000; Morehead City, 1,000. That is the best information I can get.

W. H. WOOLVIN.

DECEMBER 26, 1864—4.05 p. m.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sugar Loaf:

Scout Dickinson reports that the enemy have re-enforced at New Berne and are going to make a raid 20,000 strong; has not heard where they are going. Dickinson also states that at 8 o'clock last night the enemy were within eight miles of Swansborough. The expedition consists of one gun-boat, one flat, and a lot of small boats. They were coming up the sound at the time he was writing, 10 o'clock last night. The letter containing this information will be sent to you at once by courier.

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 26, 1864.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

General Hoke has arrived. Will start soon on steamer for Gander Hall with 400 troops.

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 26, 1864—4.45 p. m.*

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Four hundred more troops are expected at 9.15 this p. m., and 300 more by 10 p. m.; 1,300 left Greensborough this morning at 4 o'clock. They should reach Goldsborough by 4 this evening, and would get here in seven hours after.

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

NEAR HAMILTON, *December 26, 1864.*

Maj. F. S. PARKER, *Sugar Loaf:*

Dispatch received. If transportation can be had I hope to leave Tarborough with the two regiments from Goldsborough. I do not know how many have assembled at Goldsborough at present.

C. LEVENTHORPE,
Brigadier-General.

HAMILTON, N. C., *December 26, 1864.*
(Via Rocky Mount.)

Maj. F. S. PARKER,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

A scout, whom I sent to Plymouth, reports the enemy re-enforcing. They acknowledge the loss of three boats. One is sunk near our batteries. I do not feel justified in delaying the march of the two regiments. They will reach Tarborough to-morrow night, awaiting transportation to Wilmington. I believe these two regiments are greatly needed here, but they will proceed, unless I receive your orders to the contrary.

C. LEVENTHORPE,
Brigadier-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *December 26, 1864.*

Major PARKER, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I see by General Leventhorpe's dispatches of yesterday and to-day that the two regiments ordered from him are much needed. The enemy, having re-enforced at Plymouth, are now at Jamesville, twenty-three miles from Fort Branch. Great danger must result from the withdrawal of these troops. If these men are withdrawn no re-enforcements can be sent forward in time to meet the enemy. Every man except provost guard has gone from here. No troops are at Weldon. It is surely not good policy to sacrifice the only strong point we now have on the Roanoke, and with it the forage and subsistence of a fertile region. I respectfully ask that General Leventhorpe be permitted to return the troops he now has.

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General, Commanding.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 26, 1864—6.30 p. m.*

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER, *Goldsborough, N. C.:*

Let General Leventhorpe return with his two regiments to the Roanoke and meet the enemy.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

Tabular statement of light artillery in the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia.

Battalions and field officers.	Battery.	20-pounder Parrotts.	10-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.	12-pounder Napoleons.	12-pounder guns.	6-pounder guns.	12-pounder howitzers.	6-pounder howitzers.
First Military District.									
Coit's battalion:	Wright's				4				
	Pegram's				4				
Lieut. Col. J. R. Branch *a*	Bradford's *b*	3				2			
Maj. J. C. Coit	Section of Kelly's *c*				2				
Stribling's battalion:	Macon's		2	2					
	Marshall's				4				
Maj. R. M. Stribling	Sullivan's				4				
Maj. J. G. Blount *d*	Dickerson's				4				
Moseley's battalion:	Young's				4				
	Slaten's				4				
Lieut. Col. E. F. Moseley *e*	Miller's		4						
Maj. W. H. Caskie *f*	Section of Cumming's *g*				2				
Maj. J. G. Blount	Sturdivant's				4				
12th Virginia Battalion *h*	Martin's				3			1	
	Graham's *i*			3				2	

a Lieutenant-Colonel Branch has been absent disabled since April 20, 1864, and has never reported through me but once, and then for extension of leave on surgeon's certificate for thirty days from October, 1864.

b One section of Bradford's battery serving at Hicksford, on Petersburg and Weldon Railroad.

c Two sections of Kelly's battery serving, under Colonel Pool, in Second Military District.

d Major Blount temporarily commanding Moseley's battalion.

e Killed December 16, 1864.

f Absent on sick leave for five months, from Secretary of War, from November 24, 1864. Application has been made to have Major Caskie relieved from this battalion.

g One section of Cumming's battery serving, under Colonel Pool, in Second Military District.

h Major Boggs was relieved from duty with this battalion and ordered to report to Brigadier-General Walker, commanding Defenses of Richmond and Danville Railroad, by Special Orders, No. 252, headquarters Department of Northern Virginia, October 21, 1864.

i Attached to Dearing's brigade of cavalry.

Tabular statement of light artillery in the Department of North Carolina, &c.—Continued.

Battalions and field officers.	Battery.	20-pounder Parrotts.	10-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.	12-pounder Napoleons.	12-pounder guns.	6-pounder guns.	12-pounder howitzers.	6-pounder howitzers.
Second Military District.									
Starr's (13th North Carolina) battalion, Lieut. Col. J. B. Starr	Starr's						4	2	
	Dickson's	2	2						
	Section of Cummings'						2		
	Webb's *a*							4	
	Lee's *b*			1			2	1	
	Two sections of Kelly's *c*				2			2	
	One section of artillery *d*						2	1	
Third Military District.									
Lieut. Col. J. P. W. Read	Staunton Hill Artillery				4			2	
	Ellis'			1	1		2		
Maj. J. W. Moore	Badham's						2		2
	Adams'						2	2	
	Southerland's						5	1	

a Belongs properly to 12th Virginia Battalion, First Military District.
b Belongs properly to Moseley's battalion, First Military District.
c One section serving, under Major Coit, in First Military District.
d For bridge defense—manned by disabled soldiers.

Tabular statement of heavy artillery in the Department of North Carolina and Southern Virginia.

Where located.	Commanding officer.	32-pounder navy banded rifles.	32-pounder smooth-bore navy guns.	24-pounder howitzers.	16-pounder Blakely rifles.	30-pounder Parrotts.	4.62-inch Parrotts.	3-inch navy Parrotts.	12-pounder mountain howitzers.	100-pounder Parrotts.	20-pounder Parrotts.	62-pounder rifles.	3-inch Dahlgrens.
First Military District.													
Fort Clifton	Lieut. Col. H. T. Guion, of the heavy artillery.	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1				
Around Petersburg	Col. H. P. Jones, of the light artillery.			1		4			1				
High Bridge, on South Side Railroad.	Maj. V. Maurin, of the light artillery.										1		
Mattoax, Richmond and Danville Railroad.	Maj. F. J. Boggs, of the light artillery.										1		
Staunton River bridge, Richmond and Danville Railroad.											2		
Danville, Va													
Hicksford, Va	Lieut. Col. J. J. Garnett, of the artillery.												
Second Military District.													
Weldon, N. C									1		1		
Plymouth, N. C	Col. S. D. Pool, of the 10th North Carolina Artillery.									1		1	4
Washington, N. C							1				1	1	
Kinston, N. C													

Tabular statement of heavy artillery in the Department of North Carolina, &c.—Continued.

Where located.	Commanding officer.	32-pounder smooth-bores.	24-pounder siege guns.	12-pounder guns.	6-pounder guns.	8-inch columbiads.	12-pounder howitzers.	10-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.	Clay rifles.	16-pounder Blakely guns.	18-pounder.	12-pounder rifle.
First Military District.													
Fort Clifton	Lieut. Col. H. T. Guion, of the heavy artillery.	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Around Petersburg	Col. H. P. Jones, of the light artillery.	....	....	....	....	1	2	....	....	....	....	....	....
High Bridge, on South Side Railroad.	Maj. V. Maurin, of the light artillery.	....	....	....	7	....	5	2	4	1	1	....	....
Mattoax, Richmond and Danville Railroad.	Maj. F. J. Boggs, of the light artillery.	....	....	4	2	....	....	....	4	....	....	....	....
Staunton River bridge, Richmond and Danville Railroad.		....	....	3	2	....	....	....	1	....	1	1	....
Danville, Va		....	....	2	1	....	3	....	....	....	....	....	....
Hicksford, Va	Lieut. Col. J. J. Garnett, of the artillery.	....	....	....	1	....	3	....	....	....	....	....	....
Second Military District.													
Weldon, N. C		3	....	....	3	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Plymouth, N. C	Col. S. D. Pool, of the 10th North Carolina artillery.	8	....	....	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Washington, N. C		1	3	1	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Kinston, N. C		2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

REMARKS.—In the above statement Plymouth and Washington are put down because the last report received by me from the Second Military District was made on August 31, 1864, since which time Plymouth has fallen into the hands of the enemy. My connection with the artillery of this department existed only during General Beauregard's command of it, and during which time I received no report of the armament of the forts at Wilmington, and consequently am unable to give any. About September 1 there were two irregular light batteries at Wilmington in addition to those above stated, manned and officered by details from the garrison. Coit's, Stribling's, Moseley's, and the Twelfth Virginia Battalions constitute the artillery of Anderson's corps.

Respectfully submitted.

H. P. JONES,
Colonel and Chief of Artillery, Anderson's Corps.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 27, 1864—9.30 p. m.

Hon. JAMES A. SEDDON,
Secretary of War:

General Bragg reports the enemy having re-embarked under cover of his fleet. The damage to Fort Fisher slight, though the bombardment was very heavy. Major-General Whiting, commander at the mouth of

the river, Colonel Lamb, commander of the fort, and the officers and men of the garrison deserve special commendation for the gallantry, efficiency, and fortitude displayed on the occasion.

R. E. LEE.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 27, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding:

Your telegram of the 24th and your letter of the 26th are received. Our force is so much reduced that we can only occupy the line on this side as far as the Williamsburg road, and there is a great deal of work yet to be done on this part of the line, which, with details to work on the roads, will occupy all of your laboring force for a long time. The line from the Williamsburg to the Nine-Mile road must therefore be entirely neglected, unless we can get the negro force to complete it, or unless a division of the troops in reserve can be stationed there to finish the work. I think that the portion of the line occupied by General Ewell's force is not so great, in proportion to his numbers, as mine, and, in addition to my present line, I shall be obliged to extend to the Nine-Mile road, in case the enemy should move out to attack. It seems to me, therefore, that General Ewell's line is as well filled as we can afford. I presume that the enemy if let alone will concentrate all of his force against us early in the spring. It seems, therefore, the more important that our lines should be strengthened here, so as to enable us to send off some force, and break up the enemy's detachments before he concentrates.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—3 p. m.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg, Va.:

The enemy has re-embarked under cover of his fleet. His movement is not yet developed. I have visited Fort Fisher and find the damage slight, except to buildings not necessary for defense; only two guns disabled. The marks remaining indicate that the bombardment was very heavy. Major-General Whiting, commanding the defenses at the mouth of the river, Colonel Lamb, commanding the fort, and the officers and men composing the garrison deserve special commendation for the gallantry, efficiency, and fortitude displayed under very trying circumstances. Two brigades are here, another probably in Wilmington by this time.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

DECEMBER 27, 1864—2. p. m.

General BRAGG,
Sugar Loaf:

The fleet appear to have left the beach. Two vessels, appearing to be transports, are moving south. The Pelteway has landed the Junior

Reserves on Bald Head. She will come back and take twenty-five wounded men to Wilmington. Please order a steamer to come to Confederate Point, so that I may be enabled to throw troops on Bald Head. Steamer ought to come early.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—4 p. m.*

Major-General WHITING,
Fort Fisher:

Your dispatch dated 2 p. m. received. The steamer Cape Fear should be at the fort to-night, and another will be sent. The commanding general desires you will keep up constant communication with Bald Head, so that if the enemy attempt a landing the movable troops may be instantly thrown there. The enemy have all re-embarked.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Confederate Point, Fort Fisher, N. C.,
December 27, 1864—5.45 p. m.

General BRAGG,
Sugar Loaf:

GENERAL: The enemy are firing in the direction of Smithville, I suppose at the steamer Fry, now ashore near Campbell. It will be easier to send troops from Sugar Loaf than from this point if you have the steamer. I have no steamer here as yet which can come near enough to get troops rapidly on board in the night-time. Send a light-draught steamer as soon as possible. I will let you know what the firing is as soon as I can learn, but General Hébert can communicate with you by telegraph [more quickly] than I can.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Confederate Point, Fort Fisher, N. C.,
December 27, 1864.

General BRAGG,
Commanding, &c.:

GENERAL: I will, if transportation is furnished, return General Hébert's people to him. The fleet appears to be moving further out to sea. Weather heavy. I do not think we will be interfered with to-night. It would be a good idea to have troops ready on transports off Sugar Loaf to be thrown to the other side should it be necessary, especially Bald Head.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

GANDER HALL, *December 27, 1864—8 p. m.*

Major-General WHITING,
Fort Fisher:

The Agnes E. Fry is aground four miles below Fort Campbell. The commanding general desires you to send the Cape Fear on her arrival to General Hébert, to be used in relieving the blockade runner. The Sampson will not be down.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GANDER HALL, *December 27, 1864—9 p. m.*

Major-General WHITING,
Fort Fisher:

Your note of 5.45 received. We shall be prepared to send General Hébert assistance as soon as he calls for it. The commanding general desires you to return the troops you drew to Fort Fisher to their proper posts as soon as practicable. I requested you in a note about two hours ago to send the Cape Fear on her arrival to General Hébert for use in assisting the Agnes Fry. General Hoke reports that part of the fleet sailed this evening toward Masonborough.

I am, general, very respectfully,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Fisher, December 27, 1864—9.45 p. m.

Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I shall send the Cape Fear to General Hébert, but inform the general commanding that she cannot be sent to relieve the blockade-runner. The Fry is aground off Piney Point beyond the wreck of Georgiana McCaw. The Cape Fear would have to go out through enemy's fleet. All quiet. Fleet was well out by sundown. We see no lights to-night.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Fort Fisher, December 27, 1864—11.40 p. m.

Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Sugar Loaf:

Dispatch of 9 p. m. received. Will attend. Movement of troops by Cape Fear will take time owing to the depth of water and distance from shores. She cannot aid the Fry. Can now and then see lights of fleet. If they attempt to land at Masonborough Inlet on the banks, the 32-pounder manned there at Berry's and the State Salt-Works, with a few guns of Paris' battery and the Whitworth, ought to keep them from crossing, and if he has a few good infantry supports they should be kept from mainland. Channel to come in boats across the sound is

very winding. There ought to be a picket with rockets on the marsh just at Masonborough Inlet. Paris knows the place. It is about 100 yards from the breakers and men can march or ride over the marsh from there to Berry's Salt-Works.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 27, 1864—4.20 p. m.*

General WHITING:

DEAR GENERAL: Last information from you is that all is yet safe. General Bragg, I believe, visited Fisher. I am in trouble to think that you, my superior, should have to fight one of my forts, but will not complain; I understand you. I believe and hope Lamb is doing well. He ought to understand me by this time. Tell him I have heard that he has done well, as I expected. We had not the troops to meet the landing, note that, in accordance with our previous notions. God keep you. Do not expose yourself unnecessarily.

Yours, sincerely,

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—4 p. m.*

Brigadier-General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

The enemy has re-embarked and transports seem to be moving south. Watch and be prepared at Bald Head and Lockwood's Folly. Report instantly appearance of fleet.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SMITHVILLE, *December 27, 1864—7.30 p. m.*

General BRAGG:

If the enemy have left Confederate Point I ask to be re-enforced. I am very weak everywhere.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

GANDER HALL, *December 27, 1864—9 p. m.*

Brigadier-General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

General Whiting is directed to return your troops, and the five companies are returning from Georgia. Notify General Bragg promptly of appearance of fleet off your entrance, and you will be immediately re enforced.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 27, 1864.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

The blockade-runner Agnes Fry is aground about four miles below Campbell. Nothing new otherwise.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 27, 1864.*

General BRAGG:

Your dispatch about re-embarkation received and will be attended to. The firing this evening was at the steamer Fry aground.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

DECEMBER 27, 1864.

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

COLONEL: From what General Colquitt tells me, I fear Clingman's brigade will not reach Wilmington until to-morrow, so I will keep Colquitt in readiness to send to Masonborough should it be necessary. A portion of the fleet went in that direction this evening, leaving about thirty vessels opposite Battery Anderson, and well out to sea. We should look to Masonborough. There has been some trouble about transporting the troops from Wilmington. Shall I, or will you, give directions about the boats? I have sent a party to fix the telegraph to Fort Fisher.

Respectfully, yours,

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

DECEMBER 27, 1864.

General HOKE:

Will you notify Colonel Lamb as to what point on the beach your pickets will reach in this direction, and also as to what means will be taken to inform him in case of an attempt to land or a landing.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—8 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Take care of expedition on Swansborough, reported by Scout Dickinson, with home guards.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 27, 1864—9 a. m.*

General BRAGG:

Shall the five companies of the Thirty-sixth and Fortieth North Carolina troops be sent on their arrival to Sugar Loaf or to the forts?

T. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—9 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Ten companies Thirty-sixth and Fortieth Regiments, expected from Charleston, should be sent by water direct to their posts in the night.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—9 a. m.*

General HOLMES:

Send no troops here for the present except Hoke's.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—9.30 a. m.*

General HOLMES:

The command at Masonborough Sound as an outpost of Wilmington is transferred from General Hoke to you; small detachment cavalry is there. General Bragg wishes you to send there also some home guards to watch enemy and prevent landing.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 27, 1864.*

Colonel ANDERSON:

I have but 450 home guards, who won't fight. They can do nothing for Swansborough.

T. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 27, 1864.*

General BRAGG:

The following just received from Masonborough: "Seventeen vessels off; seven moving north."

T. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—1.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

General Bragg thinks for the present removal of stores, public and private, should be suspended.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GANDER HALL, *December 27, 1864—2 p. m.*

General HOLMES:

Enemy have evacuated Battery Anderson and re-embarked. General Bragg desires you to detain all troops arriving in Wilmington till further orders, holding them in hand and keeping steam-boats constantly ready. Look out well toward Masonborough; we are sending a squadron of cavalry there.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—2 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES:

I am just from Fort Fisher. The bombardment was terrific, but the defense was as gallant. The damage was slight, except to buildings not necessary for defense. The troops behaved well and are in fine spirits. The enemy are making no movements. All immediate danger is passed, and you may suspend the transfer of stores and property.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—8 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

The Cape Fear, which will be down to-night, will be used to relieve the Agnes Fry.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GANDER HALL, *December 27, 1864—8.30 p. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

A portion of the fleet sailed toward Masonborough this evening. Keep a good lookout toward Masonborough.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—4 p. m.*

Major CAMERON,
Chief Quartermaster, Wilmington, N. C.:

Steamer Cape Fear should be at Fort Fisher to-night. Send another steamer there to report to General Whiting. The steamer Sampson can come down. Why is telegraph line to Fort Fisher not repaired?

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 27, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The Cape Fear goes to Fisher to-night. The Pelteway is down the river somewhere. She had better report to General Whiting, as the arrival of the Night Hawk here shows that the troops have been loaded, and I will not send the Sampson at present, but hold her here under General Bragg's orders, and not send more troops to Sugar Loaf until further orders, and to have steamers ready for service at a moment's warning.

JNO. W. CAMERON,
Major, &c.

GANDER HALL, *December 27, 1864—9 p. m.*

Major CAMERON,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Send light-draught steamer immediately to Fort Fisher, if not already done, to transfer troops to Caswell.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 27, 1864.*

Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The Pelteway not being here and the Flora being loaded, the only steamer I have got suitable for your purpose is the Sampson, which I sent at 9 o'clock to-night to Fort Anderson to transfer troops from there to Sugar Loaf. Use her and one or two of the decked flats now at Fisher to transfer troops to Caswell, and I will, within the next half hour, start the steamer North Carolina to take the Sampson's place. In moving the troops from Anderson, please give orders to have the Sampson returned from Caswell to Sugar Loaf as soon as possible, so that she may be on hand to lighter troops or freight in case I have any to send down.

JNO. W. CAMERON,
Major and Chief Quartermaster.

WILMINGTON, *December 27, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have relieved the Badger and Night Hawk, blockade-runners, as I can get along with what transports we have should there be no heavier calls on me. Is my action approved by the general commanding, or does the anticipation of great calls for transportation make it necessary to retain them there?

JNO. W. CAMERON,
Major, &c.

GANDER HALL, *December 27, 1864—11 p. m.*

Major CAMERON,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Action as to Hawk and Badger approved. Cannot you telegraph to Fort Anderson orders for the Sampson to go to Fisher? I may not reach her, though will try.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 27, 1864.*

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Cape Fear has gone down. You had better send the orders for her to relieve the Agnes Fry to Fisher.

JNO. W. CAMERON,
Major and Quartermaster.

WILMINGTON, *December 27, 1864.*
(Received 12 m.)

Colonel ANDERSON:

The officer in charge of pickets at Masonborough reports twenty vessels off Masonborough. They are six miles farther east than they were yesterday. The officer at Topsail reports all quiet in that vicinity. I have heard nothing more from Masonborough.

A. VAN DER HORST,
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 27, 1864—7.15 a. m.*

Major VAN DER HORST:

The Fry is aground at Piney Point. Nothing new otherwise.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

MASONBOROUGH, *December 27, 1864.*

Major VAN DER HORST,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

I have the honor to report six vessels of the fleet gone north; seven more moving slowly in that direction; about ten still lying still.

C. A. ROACH,
Lieutenant, Commanding Pickets, Masonborough.

MASONBOROUGH, [*December*] *27, 1864.*

Maj. A. VAN DER HORST:

I have the honor to report about fifteen vessels lying off in a group all day, and three others a few miles north of these; one of the three has just moved down to the large group.

C. A. ROACH,
Lieutenant, Commanding Picket.

MASONBOROUGH, *December 27, 1864.*

Maj. A. VAN DER HORST:
Three steamers going north of Wrightsville.

J. MEIGHAN,
Captain, Commanding Pickets between Topsail and Wrightsville.

HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY,
Jacksonville, December 27, 1864.

Maj. J. H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

MAJOR: I sent a man to Swansborough to ascertain the truth of the report of gun-boat and barges coming into inlet at that place. The vessels only put in for the night, if they were there at all, as nothing could be seen of them yesterday. All quiet as far as I can ascertain.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

F. A. BEAZLEY,
Captain, Commanding Outposts.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—8 a. m.*

Brig. Gen. L. S. BAKER,
Goldsborough, N. C.:

Scouts report heavy raid from New Berne. Be on the alert. Let Leventhorpe return to the Roanoke with his two regiments.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 27, 1864—8 p. m.*

Brigadier-General BAKER,
Goldsborough:

Dispatch received. General Bragg wishes you to send Leventhorpe with his two regiments back to the Roanoke, our troops having arrived here. The enemy has re-embarked. His further movements not developed.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

GOLDSBOROUGH, *December 27, 1864.*
(Received 11 p. m.)

Lieutenant-Colonel ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

Dispatch received. While the troops are getting ready to move I beg to be allowed to keep them at this point, which I am satisfied is the proper place. General Bragg is not aware of the kind of troops at Kinston. After a consultation with Leventhorpe I believe that the troops on the Roanoke can hold the enemy in check until these troops get back, but this cannot be done at Kinston until they can be brought from the Roanoke. There are no troops at Weldon. Please answer immediately.

Respectfully,

L. S. BAKER,
Brigadier-General.

GANDER HALL, *December 27, 1864—11 p. m.*

Brigadier-General BAKER,
Goldsborough:

General Bragg says you may use your discretion as to movement of the two regiments.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Sugar Loaf, December 28, 1864—11 a. m.

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General:

The fleet hauled off last night after the re-embarkation of the enemy, and not more than half is visible to-day. Weather thick and threatening and the sea rough. We have troops enough in position, and such dispositions now as to give us confidence. There were two arrivals last night reported with supplies; a third is aground below Caswell, but it is not yet lost.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

(Copy to President Davis.)

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 28, 1864.

His Excellency Z. B. VANCE,
Governor of North Carolina, Raleigh:

GOVERNOR: I beg leave to call the attention of Your Excellency to the great danger we incur from the condition and management of our railroads, with the hope that you may be able to remove some of the difficulties under which we labor. General Hoke's division was ordered to Wilmington as soon as it was known that the enemy was threatening that place. The first brigade left Richmond by the Danville road on Tuesday morning, 19th instant. The other brigades followed as soon as they could be marched from below Richmond and placed on the trains. The first brigade did not reach Wilmington until the 25th, and by the afternoon of the 26th only 400 men of the second brigade of 2,000 had arrived. At that time General Bragg telegraphed that the remainder of the division had passed the Piedmont road, where most of the delay occurred, and would arrive rapidly. Yet he reported yesterday evening that up to that time only the first two brigades were with him below Wilmington and that the rest had probably reached the city. Your Excellency will readily perceive the danger we were exposed to. Fortunately, the delay was not fatal, as it might well have been. I have requested an investigation of this matter with a view to ascertaining whether the unprecedented delay was occasioned by any circumstance within the control of the military authorities, but I have thought that the State authorities can do something to aid us. I am informed that freight and passengers are shifted at Greensborough from the trains of the Piedmont road to those of the Greensborough road, and vice versa, occasioning much inconvenience and unnecessary delay, as the two roads have the same gauge. I trust that Your Excellency will endeavor to ascertain what can be done to facilitate transportation by rail, and

give all the assistance in your power. The delay is not only dangerous and injurious, but has given rise to painful suspicions, which in justice to those connected with the management of the roads should be removed.

With great respect, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

GANDER HALL, *December 28, 1864—8 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

The order to detain troops in Wilmington does not include the ten companies Thirty-sixth and Fortieth Regiments. They are to immediately go to the forts.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 28, 1864.*
(Received 9 a. m.)

Colonel ANDERSON:

Scout Dickinson reports enemy's expedition to Swansborough returned to Beaufort, and that the cars have been running all the time from Morehead City to New Berne for the last four days. General Hoke telegraphed for the troops of his division. I have ordered them to Sugar Loaf.

T. H. HOLMES,
Lieutenant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 28, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES,
Wilmington, N. C.:

Clingman's brigade will remain in Wilmington. All men of Hagood's and Kirkland's will come to Sugar Loaf. Colquitt's will go to Fort Anderson, and detachments to their proper posts.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 28, 1864.*

General HOLMES:

General Bragg directs troops be relieved from duty in trenches about city.

FRANK S. PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 28, 1864—12.20 p. m.*

General HOLMES:

General Bragg and staff are just leaving for Wilmington by telegraph road.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 28, 1864—8 a. m.*

General BRAGG,

Sugar Loaf and Wilmington:

Quiet during the night, except entrance of Will of the Wisp and Banshee, latter under a weak fire of two blockaders at very long range yesterday. The blockading vessels and small tugs—I count thirty in all—about six miles off. I am at a loss whether to put the obstructions on the Rips or not. Shall I do so? I send the Caswell troops to General Hébert. It will take a long time to get them on board. No light-draught steamer here. On arrival of the battalion of the Thirty-sixth please to make them march at once and send the Fortieth by steamer. Let me keep Graham until secure.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 28, 1864.*

Flag-Officer PINCKNEY:

The Fry is beyond the reach of the Chickamauga. She is entire. four miles below the bar. It will not do to send her out. Please let Ward bring the Governor and myself up to town. Answer at once.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 28, 1864—7 p. m.*

Flag-Officer PINCKNEY:

I will go over to Smithville in Chickamauga and bring Captain Fry and people up to city. Your dispatch was misunderstood.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 28, 1864.*

General HOLMES:

General Bragg directs that Clingman's brigade be retained in Wilmington and the remainder of Colquitt's brigade be sent to Fort Anderson to join their brigade.

R. F. HOKE,
Major-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 28, 1864.*

General HOKE,

Sugar Loaf:

Please send me another regiment, a good one, this morning. I have a great deal of work to do, and have to send 500 men back to General Hébert. It leaves me too weak entirely. I expect the battalion back from Charleston to-morrow.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 28, 1864.*

Major-General HOKE:

I will send the couriers to replace them. Don't fail to send down a regiment until I get the men from Charleston. I have a large amount of work to do.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 28, 1864.*
(Received 7 a. m.)

General BRAGG:

Weather is somewhat misty after storm. I, however, can say there is no fleet near western bar yet. The firing this morning is at the Fry.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 28, 1864—8 a. m.*

Major VAN DER HORST:

No news from Fisher since last evening at about 6.30 o'clock. All was well then. Five vessels off here this a. m. The City of Petersburg, the Hansa, and the Chamberlin went out by western bar last night, and the Virginia came in.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 28, 1864.*

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

The general will return to town this afternoon. He says he will give his directions with reference to the continuation of the work at Fisher as soon as possible, and further directs me to say he will visit you as soon as he is able.

JAMES H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 28, 1864.*

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

I will be down to-day and will go to town afterward; will make arrangements to send your troops back; am going in Chickamauga to take the Fry people up to city.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

FORT FISHER, *December 28, 1864—12 m.*

General HÉBERT,
Smithville:

I send you four of your companies by Cape Fear to-day; and am in hopes that the battalion of the Fortieth will reach you to-morrow. There are now twenty-six vessels off, and they are very quiet.

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 28, 1864.*
(Received 9 a. m.)

Colonel ANDERSON:

Please answer my telegram about Night Hawk and Badger, and let me know if my arrangement for moving troops from Fisher to Caswell worked well, and if the Cape Fear has received her orders to relieve the Agnes Fry.

JNO. W. CAMERON,
Major and Quartermaster.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 28, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Major CAMERON, *Chief Quartermaster, Wilmington:*

I telegraphed you last night your action as to Night Hawk and Badger approved. Sampson and McLaurin have come down. All right now. Cape Fear cannot get to Fry.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant-Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 28, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Major CAMERON, *Chief Quartermaster, Wilmington:*

Send steamers to Gander Hall to take Connally's reserves, 1,000, to Wilmington.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MASONBOROUGH, *December 28, 1864.*

Major VAN DER HORST, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

I have the honor to report all quiet here. Too foggy yet to see any of the fleet.

C. A. ROACH,
Lieutenant, Commanding Pickets at Masonborough.

MASONBOROUGH, *December 28, 1864.*

Capt. J. W. HINSDALE, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

All quiet. Twenty-one vessels between here and eight miles south; one off here.

GEO. JACKSON,
Colonel, Commanding.

MASONBOROUGH, *December 28, 1864.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES:

The fleet have decreased in front of Battery Gatlin, but sixteen vessels now remaining; none gone north this morning, unless they passed during the fog.

J. G. BURR,
Colonel, Commanding.

MASONBOROUGH, *December 28, 1864.*

Captain HINSDALE, *Assistant Adjutant-General:*

The fog has cleared off; only one steamer in sight, apparently steaming south.

J. G. BURR,
Colonel, Commanding.

VIRGINIA CREEK, *December 28, 1864.*

Major VAN DER HORST:

One steamer passed this morning, going south.

W. N. MICKLER,
Lieutenant, Commanding Pickets.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 28, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Brigadier-General BAKER, *Goldsborough:*

The enemy having put to sea may intend movement from New Berne. If this occurs the commanding general authorizes you to stop any troops passing through Goldsborough.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

SUGAR LOAF, *December 28, 1864.*

Captain JAMES,
Chief Engineer, Wilmington:

Send down to report to General Hoke the whole engineer force with tools by steamer immediately.

FRANK S. PARKER,
Aide-de-Camp.

WILMINGTON, *December 28, 1864.*

Lieut. Gen. W. J. HARDEE, *Charleston:*

Since your dispatch announcing the order for return of my troops, Major Lee, quartermaster, telegraphs the order is countermanded. Will you inform me of the facts?

BRAXTON BRAGG.

Tabular report of field artillery serving with Army of Northern Virginia, Brig. Gen. W. N. Pendleton, chief of artillery, commanding.

WITH FIRST CORPS.

Brig. Gen. E. P. ALEXANDER, chief of artillery, commanding.

Battalion	Company.	12-pounder Napoleons.	12-pounder howitzers.	24-pounder howitzers.	10-pounder Parrotts.	20-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.	12-pounder Whitworth.	8-pounder Armstrongs.
Col. H. C. Cabell	Anderson's (1st Richmond Howitzers).	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Maj. S. P. Hamilton	Callaway's	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	Carlton's	....	....	....	4	....	....	....	....
	Manly's	2	....	....	....	....	2	....	....
Lieut. Col. Frank Huger	Fickling's	....	4	....	....	....	....	....	....
Maj. T. C. Jordan	Moody's	....	2	4	....	....	....	....	....
	Parker's	....	....	....	....	....	4	....	....
	Smith's	....	....	....	....	....	4	....	....
	Taylor's	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	Woolfolk's	2	....	....	....	2	....	....	....

Tabular report of field artillery serving with Army of Northern Virginia, &c.—Continued.

WITH FIRST CORPS—Continued.

Battalion.	Company.	12-pounder Napoleons.	12-pounder howitzers.	24-pounder howitzers.	10-pounder Parrotts.	20-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.	12-pounder Whitworth.	8-pounder Armstrongs.
Maj. John C. Haskell	Flanner's	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	Garden's	3	....	....	1	....	....	....	....
	Lamkin's *a*	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	Ramsay's	....	....	....	3	....	....	1	2
Lieut. Col. R. A. Hardaway *b*	Dance's	....	....	....	....	....	4	....	....
	Graham's	....	....	....	2	....	2	....	....
	Griffin's	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	Smith's (3d Richmond Howitzers).	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Maj. A. W. Stark *c*	Armistead's	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	French's	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	Green's	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Lieut. Col. William T. Poague *d*	Johnston's	1	....	....	2	....	....	....	....
	Penick's *e*	....	....	....	2	....	2	....	....
	Richards'	4	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	Utterback's	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	Williams'	2	....	....	....	....	1	....	....
Total		52	6	4	14	2	19	1	2

With First Corps, 100 field guns, viz, 62 smooth-bores and 38 rifles.

a This company is serving twenty-six mortars.
b This battalion belongs properly to Second Corps.
c This battalion belongs to Richmond Department.
d This battalion belongs to Third Corps; it has reliefs serving four mortars.
e This battery detached from Richardson's battalion, Third Corps.

WITH SECOND CORPS.

Brig. Gen. A. L. LONG, chief of artillery, absent sick.
Col. THOMAS H. CARTER, acting chief of artillery, commanding.

Battalion.	Company.	12-pounder Napoleons.	12-pounder howitzers.	10-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.
Lieut. Col. William Nelson	Kirkpatrick's	2	.....	.....	1
	Milledge's	.....	.....	.....	3
	Snead's	.....	2	.....	.....
Lieut. Col. C. M. Braxton	Carpenter's	2	.....	.....	.....
Maj. M. N. Moorman	Cooper's	.....	.....	2	.....
	Hardwicke's	2	.....	.....	.....
Maj. W. E. Cutshaw	Fry's	.....	2	.....	.....
	Garber's	.....	.....	.....	2
	Jones' (2d Richmond Howitzers)	2	.....	2	.....
Lieut. Col. J. F. King	Bryan's	.....	.....	.....	2
Maj. William McLaughlin	Chapman's	2	.....	.....	.....
	Lowry's	2	.....	.....	.....
Total		12	4	4	8

This artillery, with Second Corps, lost guns in the late Valley campaign. It is still in the Valley.
With Second Corps, 28 field guns, viz, 16 smooth-bores and 12 rifles.

Tabular report of field artillery serving with Army of Northern Virginia, &c.—Continued.

WITH THIRD CORPS.

Col. R. L. WALKER, chief of artillery, commanding.

Battalion.	Company.	12-pounder Napoleons.	24-pounder howitzers.	10-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.	12-pounder Whitworth.
Lieut. Col. D. G. McIntosh *a*. Maj. M. Johnson	Chew's			1	2	
	Clutter's *b*	2			2	
	Dement's *c*	4				
	Donald's		3			
	Hurt's				2	1
Lieut. Col. W. J. Pegram *d*. Maj. J. McGraw	Price's	4				
	Brander's	4				
	Cayce's	4				
	Ellett's				4	
	Gregg's	4				
	Pollock's *b*	4				
Lieut. Col. C. Richardson. Maj. V. Maurin *e*	Grandy's	2			2	
	Landry's	2		2		
	Moore's	4				
Col. A. S. Cutts *f*. Maj. John Lane	Patterson's	6				
	Ross'	4		2		
	Wingfield's	2		4	2	
Lieut. Col. R. F. Eshleman *g*. Maj. M. B. Miller *h*	Hero's	4				
	Norcom's	3		1		
	Owen's			1	3	
Maj. W. H. Gibbes *i*. Maj. W. M. Owen	Richardson's	4				
	Chamberlayne's	4				
	Dickenson's	4				
	Walker's	4				
Total		69	3	11	17	1

With Third Corps, 101 field guns, viz, 72 smooth-bores and 29 rifles.

a This battalion also serving two 8-inch howitzers and two 8-inch mortars.
b This battery detached with First Corps.
c This company sent to Drewry's; its guns retained.
d This battalion also serving two 8-inch mortars and two 24-pounder mortars.
e Major Maurin detached, commanding artillery at High Bridge, South Side Railroad.
f This battalion also serving one 8-inch columbiad and seven 24-pounder mortars.
g This battalion belongs to First Corps.
h Major Miller serving with Richardson's battalion in place of Major Maurin.
i This battalion came with General Breckinridge. Major Gibbs absent, wounded July 20.

WITH ANDERSON'S CORPS.

Col. H. P. JONES, chief of artillery, commanding.

Battalion.	Company.	12-pounder guns.	12-pounder Napoleons.	12-pounder howitzer.	20-pounder Parrotts.	10-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.
Lieut. Col. J. R. Branch *a*. Maj. J. C. Coit	Bradford's *b*	2			3		
	Kelly's *c*		2				
	Pegram's		4				
	Wright's		4				

With Anderson's corps, 53 guns, viz, 42 smooth-bores and 11 rifles.
The artillery companies with this corps also serve one 8-inch columbiad, four 30-pounder Parrotts, one 24-pounder and three 12-pounder howitzers, besides four 8-inch mortars, twelve 24-pounder, and nine 12-pounder mortars.

a Lieutenant-Colonel Branch absent; fails to report; inquiry about him has been forwarded.
b One section at Hicksford, Petersburg and Weldon Railroad.
c Two sections with Colonel Pool in North Carolina.

Tabular report of field artillery serving with Army of Northern Virginia, &c.—Continued.

WITH ANDERSON'S CORPS—Continued.

Battalion.	Company.	12-pounder guns.	12-pounder Napoleons.	12-pounder howitzer.	20-pounder Parrotts.	10-pounder Parrotts.	3-inch rifles.
Maj. R. M. Stribling	Dickerson's	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maj. J. G. Blount *a*	Macon's	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2
	Marshall's	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Sullivan's	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Col. E. F. Moseley *b*	Cumming's *d*	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Maj. W. H. Caskie *c*	Mil'er's	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....
	Slaten's	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Young's	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
—— —— *e*	Martin's	.....	3	1	.....	.....	.....
	Sturdivant's	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total		2	39	1	3	6	2

a Major Blount temporarily commanding Moseley's battalion.
b Colonel Moseley was killed December 16, 1864.
c Major Caskie absent; sick leave indefinite.
d One section with Colonel Pool in North Carolina.
e Maj. F. J. Boggs, who commanded this battalion, now on duty on Richmond and Danville Railroad.

Two hundred and eighty-two field guns with the four infantry corps, Army of Northern Virginia, viz, 192 smooth-bores and 90 rifles.

Artillery serving with cavalry attached to Army of Northern Virginia, Maj. R. P. Chew, chief of artillery, commanding.

Battalion.	Company.	3-inch rifles.	12-pounder howitzers.
Maj. R. P. Chew *a*	Graham's	2	2
	Hart's	4	.....
	McGregor's	4	.....
Maj. J. Breathed *b*	Johnston's	.....	.....
	Mulligan's	.....	.....
	Shoemaker's	.....	.....
	Thomson's	.....	.....
—— —— *c*	Griffin's	.....	.....
	Jackson's	.....	.....
	McClanahan's	.....	.....
Total		.....	.....

a This battalion is serving with General Hampton on the line below Petersburg.
b This battalion with Generals Fitz Lee and Rosser in the Valley. Its armament not reported since last loss of guns.
c This battalion arranged by General Lomax and serving with him. No field officer. Armament not reported since last loss of guns.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
December 28, 1864.

Respectfully forwarded under call received 24th instant.

Report of all guns in position, also called for, will be forwarded as soon as possible.

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 29, 1864. (Received 12 o'clock.)

JAMES A. SEDDON, *Secretary of War:*

General Bragg reports the enemy's fleet has entirely disappeared from off Wilmington, the ordinary blockading squadron being only in sight this morning. The works erected and other indications show a division had landed, and the movement real.

R. E. LEE.

CONFIDENTIAL CIRCULAR. } HDQRS. ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
December 29, 1864.

I desire that you will avail yourself of the present period of inactivity to reorganize and recruit the troops in your command as far as practicable. Ascertain what regiments, if any, it would be advantageous to consolidate, and how such vacancies as may exist among the officers can best be filled. In every case in which you may think the officer to be promoted unsuitable for the new grade, you will forward a report as to his qualifications in order that he may be brought before an examining board. The difficulty of filling vacancies properly during active operations, and the importance of habituating the officers who are to be promoted to the duties of their new positions, render it proper that there should be no delay.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. LEE,
General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 29, 1864.

General R. E. LEE, *Commanding, &c.:*

Your letter of the 26th instant is received. I cannot think that there is cause for serious apprehension for any portion of General Ewell's line. If my own line were as well filled, I should feel secure against any attack. I should think, therefore, that the men lately recalled to the field could be spared for their important labors in Richmond. As to relieving the entire force under General Ewell by my troops, I do not think that such a step would be prudent. I do not think that the position on this side would be safe with any less force than I have. If General Ewell's forces are withdrawn and replaced by my own, I shall have nothing to meet a flank movement on the part of the enemy. I do not know enough of Major Gibbes' character or services to express an opinion as to his fitness for the command at Chaffin's Bluff. We want there an officer of high moral character and courage, one who will fight his guns as long as he has one to fight. If Major Gibbes is entirely reliable for the work he will be perfectly acceptable. I know Major Haskell better, and should feel more confidence if he were in the position. Can one of the companies of heavy artillery now on the intermediate line be sent down to relieve the company belonging to Chaffin's and now at the batteries on the south side of the river? General Alexander's attention will be called to the condition of the guns, &c., at Chaffin's Bluff.

I remain, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864.*

Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR,
Richmond:

All practicable means are being used to save cargo and machinery of steamer Fry, and the operation is quietly going on, but the vessel is a loss.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864—9 a. m.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg, Va.:

The fleet has entirely disappeared, the ordinary blockading vessels only remaining in sight this morning. The works thrown up by the enemy and other indications where he landed show there was at least a division on shore, and the movement a real one. With the continued protection of Providence, our gallant troops feel confident of their ability to foil his efforts at any other point here.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

(Copy sent the President.)

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864.*

General R. E. LEE,
Petersburg:

The fleet disappeared during last evening and night, moving easterly. We could not infer their intentions or direction from any movement made, nor can we gain the slightest information from prisoners, except that the land force was the Twenty-fourth Corps, late the Tenth and Eighteenth. Am I authorized to re-enforce General Beauregard in case they appear at Charleston?

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Richmond, Va.:

The enemy's first attempt having been foiled, we shall be much better prepared for him in any future effort near this point. Our deliverance, however, has been providential and I shall soon ask the attention of the Government to the insufficiency and the incapacity of the Greensborough and Danville Railroad. The criminal delays there detaining some troops sixty hours on some forty-eight miles of road admit of no explanation or excuse. No army can be supported and no cause sustained where such imbecility obtains.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

(Copy to President Davis.)

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, December 29, 1864.

Maj. Gen. J. F. GILMER,
Chief Engineer, Richmond:

GENERAL: A suitable officer of your corps is much needed to serve at the headquarters of this department. I hope you will be able to have one ordered to me soon. The duties to be performed are varied and very important, requiring experience, skill, and great energy.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BRAXTON BRAGG,
General.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864.*

Col. J. GORGAS,
Chief of Ordnance, Richmond, Va.:

To replace damages and expenditures, General Whiting will require as soon as possible several carriages for 8-inch and 10-inch guns, and shot and shell for the same. Please urge the work on them at your arsenals. I am greatly in need of a good chief of ordnance. My old chief, Oladowski, would be acceptable.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864.*

General G. T. BEAUREGARD,
Charleston:

The enemy's fleet has all sailed from here, having failed to inflict any serious damage. We could not discover their destination or future intentions.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864—10.05 a. m.*

Major-General WHITING,
Fort Fisher:

Give every assistance to wrecking Agnes Fry and securing cargo and everything valuable about steamer that can be saved. Have an officer with sufficient guard to take care of everything landed.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864—10.30 a. m.*

Major-General WHITING,
Fort Fisher:

General Bragg desires you as district commander to see that all telegraph lines are at once put in order. Many poles are decayed. You are also desired to take immediate steps for establishment of submarine telegraph line between Fort Fisher and Caswell.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864.*

Major-General WHITING, *Fort Fisher:*

General Bragg will make a call at the forts to-morrow morning, and directs me to say you can give instructions for work to be done at Fisher and be ready to return with him and resume your headquarters here.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 29, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Present:

COLONEL: Please to inform the general commanding that I left all quiet at Fort Fisher, the force hard at work repairing damages and strengthening the position. The companies belonging to the works on Oak Island have been returned; those from Bald Head are still retained, but I expect to send them back to-morrow. I most earnestly desire the return of the garrisons from Charleston.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

FISHER, *December 29, 1864—8.30 a. m.*

General WHITING:

I am satisfied that the vessels off here are nothing but blockaders. Eight blockaders and one schooner off; the fleet has undoubtedly gone.

JAS. H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
December 29, 1864.

Lieutenant-General HOLMES:

GENERAL: The commanding general directs that all the troops serving in the trenches be relieved. The temporary organizations belonging to the town may be dismissed; the others will go into camp at points not remote from the railroad, where wood is abundant.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
December 29, 1864.

Lieutenant-General HOLMES, *Commanding, &c.:*

GENERAL: The commanding general desires me to say that you may recall the home guards you have on Masonborough Sound. The men of this organization living in Wilmington may return to their homes; the others must remain in camp till the enemy's plans are more clearly developed.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MASONBOROUGH, *December 29, 1864—10.45 a. m.*

Lieutenant-General HOLMES:

A dispatch just received from Sloop Point states one large steamer lying off that place with one schooner in attendance; nothing off this point.

J. G. BURR,
Colonel, Commanding.

MASONBOROUGH, *December 29, 1864—5.30 p. m.*

Major VAN DER HORST:

Three vessels lying off Battery Gatlin, two moving north and one just moved up lying off here.

C. A. ROACH.
Lieutenant, Commanding Picket.

SMITHVILLE, *December 29, 1864.*

Major VAN DER HORST:

The present condition of Fry not positively known; nothing from Evelyn since night before last, when she was still in Little River. The pilot I sent was on his way and near there then; three blockaders were off there.

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 29, 1864.*

Major VAN DER HORST:

There are at Fisher 1,657, at Fort Holmes 550, and at Oak Island 1,056, and at Smithville 392 individuals who draw rations. This embraces troops, negroes, and employés, making a total of 3,642 [3,655].

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864—2.40 p. m.*

Major-General HOKE,
Sugar Loaf:
Major-General WHITING,
Fort Fisher:

General Bragg wishes to know whether you can draw any inference as to which way fleet has sailed.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864.*

Major-General HOKE,
Sugar Loaf:

General Colquitt will be ordered direct by telegraph to move his brigade here by steamer to-morrow. Let Ellis' battery march here to-morrow.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864.*

Major-General HOKE, *Sugar Loaf:*

McKethan is here with brigade. Will give orders. Keep your sick here.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 29, 1864.*

Brigadier-General COLQUITT, *Fort Anderson:*

General Bragg directs movement of your brigade to Wilmington by steamer to-morrow morning. Steamers will be sent.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, December 29, 1864.

Flag-Officer PINCKNEY, *Wilmington:*

SIR: Information has been received that the cargo and machinery of the Agnes Fry, aground below Fort Campbell, can be saved, though the ship must probably be lost. I beg to request that you will co-operate with General Hébert with such means as may be at your disposal in securing the valuable property on board of this steamer.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, December 29, 1864.

Flag-Officer PINCKNEY, *Wilmington:*

SIR: The enemy having drawn off entirely since his discomfiture, there is no longer a necessity for the patrol on the river which you kindly established at my request. It affords me great pleasure to convey to you the assurance of my admiration for the conduct of your officers and men serving Battery Buchanan during the bombardment of the 24th and 25th instant. General Whiting speaks in the highest terms of their gallantry and efficiency. When the reports in detail are received I shall be able to lay the matter before the Government in a more formal and satisfactory dispatch.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, &c.,
BRAXTON BRAGG.

SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 309. } ADJT. AND INSP. GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, December 30, 1864.

* * * * * * *

XXXII. As it has been represented to this Department, and the fact appears, that the Piedmont railroad, running from Danville, in the State of Virginia, to Greensborough, in the State of North Carolina, has unreasonably failed to comply with the requisition of this Department for the transportation of freights, supplies, materials, and men of the Confederate States, thereby injuriously affecting their military operations,

Maj. S. R. Chisman, of the quartermaster's department, on behalf of the Confederate States, will seize and impress such road, with all of its depots, cars, locomotives, running-stock, machinery, and implements, and turn the same over to the Quartermaster-General, who is invested with all the powers and will perform all the duties provided for by the act of Congress, approved May 1, 1863, entitled "An act to facilitate transportation for the Government."

XXXIII. The following schedule of prices for articles named therein, adopted by commissioners appointed pursuant to law for the State of Virginia, are published for the information of all concerned, and the special attention of officers and agents of the Government is directed thereto:

RICHMOND, VA., *December 3, 1864.*

HON. JAMES A. SEDDON:

SIR: Upon consultation, we have concluded to readopt for December and January our last schedules for October and November, thus continuing the same rates, with a few exceptions, relative to the prices to be paid for hired negro laborers. These changes will be found in Schedule B. The policy you proposed for impressing from producers only one-half of their surplus productions is eminently proper, and all impressing officers should scrupulously observe the rule, and never go beyond it. If this rule is strictly adhered to by impressing officers it would greatly benefit the non-producers and tend to reconcile the producing classes to whatever appeared harsh in our system of impressments, for they would have one-half of their surplus productions to dispose of at neighborhood market rates.

As requested by your Department, we conferred with commissioners of North Carolina, and had the good fortune to adjust prices upon a basis calculated to harmonize the leading interest of both States. The just and enlightened views entertained by the North Carolina commissioners were practically illustrated by the liberal spirit and wise terms upon which they agreed to co-operate with us. In this revolutionary crisis we should all agree to aid each other and the Government. To rescue the country and save the people from the dangers that environ both is clearly the duty of all. Our honor, rights, and independence are at stake. Let us bend all our energies to defend and secure them. To attain this invaluable end the people must be fed and clothed. Our producers, manufacturers, and tradesmen certainly can afford to work for moderate compensation while our gallant soldiers dare to confront our savage adversaries in their defense. Certainly if our brave men throw their protecting arms around our family altars and gallantly defend their country for a sum too insignificant to mention, those who remain at home enjoying the benefit of their valor can afford to feed them and their families on the most moderate terms. The question should be, how little will you ask or take for your productions? Fidelity to all the best interests of our country points to the observance of this maxim as the best test of our charity and patriotism. Let the watchword be everything for our country and away with money-making. In this final and desperate struggle for liberty beware lest in hoarding up money and neglecting the cause of the people you exchange your birthright for a mess of pottage. Believing that our cause appeals to all parties and interests alike, we trust the people will unite and act in concert in achieving our independence What we will to do we can accomplish. United we are invincible—triumphant, what a glorious destiny opens to our view; conquered, how abject and forlorn our condition! Who, under existing circumstances, is not willing to sacrifice a few paper dollars to gain the most enviable victory that civilization ever witnessed?

Entertaining the conviction that the popular mind is favorable to every effort calculated to advance the success of our cause, we venture to place before you the annexed schedules of prices for the months of December and January, which, though imperfect, because there are so many and such varied views and interests to harmonize, yet we indulge the hope may be properly received by the people.

The following prices are to be the maximum rates to be paid for the articles impressed in all cities and the usual place of sale, and when impressed on the farms or elsewhere the same prices are to be paid.

Under existing circumstances we deem it not only just, but most likely to favor increased production, that producers in future should not be required to transport their surplus productions when impressed, but that the agents of the Government should impress or employ the neighborhood or county wagons and teams to haul such articles and so divide the work between the owners of wagons and teams as to be least prejudicial to those successfully engaged in agriculture.

SCHEDULE A.

No.	Articles.	Quality.	Description.	Quantity.	Price.
1	Wheat	Prime	White or red	Per bushel of 60 pounds.	$7 50
2	Flour	Good, fine		Per barrel of 196 pounds	33 00
2	....do	Superfine		.....do	37 50
2	....do	Extra superfine		.....do	39 75
2	....do	Family		.....do	42 00
3	Corn	Prime	White or yellow	Per bushel of 56 pounds	5 00
4	Corn meal	Good		Per bushel of 50 pounds	5 20
5	Rye	Prime		Per bushel of 56 pounds	5 00
6	Cleaned oats	....do		Per bushel of 32 pounds	4 00
7	Wheat bran	Good		Per bushel of 17 pounds	75
8	Shorts	....do		Per bushel of 22 pounds	1 05
9	Brown stuff	....do		Per bushel of 28 pounds	1 35
10	Ship stuff	....do		Per bushel of 37 pounds	2 10
11	Bacon	....do	Hog round	Per pound	2 75
12	Pork, salt	....do		.....do	2 30
13	Pork, fresh	Fat and good		Per pound, net weight	1 82
14	Lard	Good		.....do	2 75
15	Horses and mules	First class	Artillery, &c	Average price per head.	800 00
16	Wool	Fair or Merino	Washed	Per pound	8 00
17	....do	....do	Unwashed	.....do	6 00
18	Pease	Good		Per bushel	5 00
19	Beans	....do		.....do	5 00
20	Potatoes	....do	Irish	.....do	4 00
21	....do	....do	Sweet	.....do	4 00
22	Onions	....do		.....do	8 00
23	Dried peaches	....do	Peeled	.....do	8 00
24	....do	....do	Unpeeled	.....do	4 50
25	Dried apples	....do	Peeled	.....do	5 00
26	Hay, baled	....do	Timothy or clover	Per 100 pounds	3 90
27	....do	....do	Orchard or herd grass.	.....do	3 90
28	Hay, unbaled	....do	....do	.....do	3 00
29	Sheaf oats, baled	....do		.....do	5 25
30	Sheaf oats, unbaled	....do		.....do	4 75
31	Blade fodder, baled	....do		.....do	3 90
32	Blade fodder, unbaled.	....do		.....do	3 00
33	Shucks, baled	....do		.....do	2 60
34	Shucks, unbaled	....do		.....do	1 70
35	Wheat straw, baled	....do		.....do	2 20
36	Wheat straw, unbaled.	....do		.....do	1 30
37	Pasturage	....do	Interior	Per head, per month	3 00
38	....do	Superior	....do	.....do	4 00
39	....do	First rate	....do	.....do	5 00
40	....do	Good	Near cities	.....do	5 00
41	....do	Superior	....do	.....do	6 00
42	....do	First rate	....do	.....do	7 00
43	Salt	Good		Per bushel of 50 pounds	5 00
44	Soap	....do		Per pound	1 00
45	Candles	....do	Tallow	.....do	3 00
46	Vinegar	....do	Cider	Per gallon	2 00
47	Whisky	....do	Trade	.....do	10 00
48	Sugar	....do	Brown	Per pound	3 00
49	Molasses	....do	New Orleans	Per gallon	25 00
50	Rice	....do		Per pound	50
51	Coffee	....do	Rio	.....do	3 00
52	Tea	....do	Trade	.....do	7 00
53	Vinegar	....do	Manufactured	Per gallon	1 00
54	Pig-iron	....do	No. 1 quality	Per ton	350 00
55	....do	....do	No. 2 quality	.....do	314 00
56	....do	....do	No. 3 quality	.....do	278 00
57	Bloom iron	....do		.....do	710 00
58	Smiths' iron	....do	Round, plate, or bar	.....do	1,030 00
59	Railroad iron	Serviceable		.....do	400 00
60	Leather	Good	Harness	Per pound	3 90
61	....do	....do	Sole	.....do	3 60
62	....do	....do	Upper	.....do	4 20
63	Beef-cattle	....do	Gross weight	Per 100 pounds	30 00
64	....do	Superior	.....do	.....do	35 00
65	....do	First rate	.....do	.....do	40 00
66	Salt beef	Good		Per pound, net	1 50
67	Sheep	Fair		Per head	35 00
68	Army woolen cloth, 3-4 yard.	Good	10 ounces per yard	Per yard	5 00
69	....do	....do	Pro rata as to greater or less width or weight.		
70	Army woolen cloth, 6-4.	....do	20 ounces per yard		10 00
71	....do	....do	Pro rata as to greater or less width or weight.		

SCHEDULE A—Continued.

No.	Articles.	Quality.	Description.	Quantity.	Price.
72	Flannels, 3-4	Good	6 ounces per yard	Per yard	$4 00
73	Cotton shirtings, 3-4	do	4½ yards to pound	do	1 11
74	Cotton shirtings, 7-8	do	3¾ yards to pound	do	1 35
75	Cotton sheetings, 4-4	do	3 yards to pound	do	1 75
76	Osnaburgs, 3-4	do	6 ounces per yard	do	1 50
77	Osnaburgs, 7-8	do	8 ounces per yard	do	1 93
78	Osnaburg tent cloths	do	10 ounces per yard	do	2 53
a79					
80	Army shoes	Good		Per pair	15 00
81	Shoe thread	do		Per pound	3 00
82	Wool socks, for men	do		Per pair	2 00
83	Corn-top fodder, baled	do		Per 100 pounds	2 40
84	Corn-top fodder, unbaled	do		do	1 50
85	Wheat chaff, baled	do		do	2 40
86	Wheat chaff, unbaled	do		do	1 50
87	Sorghum molasses	First quality		Per gallon	8 00
88	Pasturage for sheep	Good	Interior	Per head	40
89	do	Superior	do	do	50
90	do	First rate	do	do	60
91	Apple brandy			Per gallon	10 00
92	Peach brandy			do	10 00
93	Butter	Good		Per pound	5 00

a On the above enumerated cotton cloths pro rata as to greater or less width or weight.

In assessing the value of first-class artillery and wagon horses and mules at $800, we designed that the terms should be accepted and acted upon according to its obvious common sense import. In other words, that they should be selected and then impressed, accordingly as their working qualities and adaptation to army service, together with their intrinsic value, would warrant a judicious purchaser in considering them as coming within the contemplation of the commissioners when they assessed the average value of such horses as the Government needed at $800. But cases might arise, however, when the public exigencies would be so urgent as to demand that all horses at hand should be impressed; yet, under ordinary circumstances, when family or extra blooded horses or brood mares of admitted high value are impressed, we respectfully suggest to the Secretary of War to have instructions forwarded to the impressing officers to propose and allow the owners to substitute in their stead such strong, sound, and serviceable horses or mules as shall be considered and valued by competent and disinterested parties as first-class artillery horses or first-class wagon mules.

The term average value per head is in contradistinction to a fixed and uniform price for each horse or mule. We suppose that in impressing a number of horses or mules, whether owned by several persons or one individual, that some might be estimated at $600, and others at different advanced rates, according to their worth, up as high as $1,000, thus making an average value or price for a number of good, sound, and efficient horses or mules $800 each.

In illustration of our views we will add, that a horse with only one eye sound might, in all other respects, be classed as a first-class artillery horse, yet the loss of one eye would justly and considerably curtail his value. So a horse from ten to eighteen years of age might be deemed in all other particulars as a first-class artillery horse, but, of course, however efficient and able to render good service for a year or two, yet his advanced age would justly and materially impair his value. Any horse, however he may approximate the standard of a first-class artillery horse, must, according to deficiency, fall below the maximum price, and as few, comparatively, come up to the standard, and are therefore entitled to the maximum price, so, of course, in all other instances the price should be proportionately reduced as imperfections place them below the standard of first-class, &c.

The first quality of sorghum molasses is of the consistency of honey and free from all acidity to the taste; but second and inferior qualities of molasses should be reduced in price from 10 to 20 per cent. accordingly as they shall fall below the standard of first quality.

SCHEDULE B.—*Hire of labor, teams, wagons, and drivers.*

	Labor.	Quantity and time.	Price.
1	Baling long forage	Per 100 pounds	$0 90
2	Shelling and bagging corn, sacks furnished by Government	Per 56 pounds	05
3	Hauling	Per cwt., per mile	08
4	Hauling grain	Per bushel, per mile.	04
5	Hire of two-horse team, wagon, and driver, rations furnished by owner.	Per day	10 00
6	Hire of same, rations furnished by Government	....do	5 00
7	Hire of four-horse team, wagon, and driver, rations furnished by owner.	....do	13 00
8	Hire of same, rations furnished by Government	....do	6 50
9	Hire of six-horse team, wagon, and driver, rations furnished by owner.	....do	16 00
10	Hire of same, rations furnished by Government	....do	8 00
11	Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner	....do	5 00
12	Hire of same, rations furnished by Government	....do	2 50
13	Hire of same, rations and clothing furnished by owner	Per month	100 00
14	Hire of same, rations and clothing furnished by Government	....do	75 00
15	Hire of teamster, rations furnished by Government	....do	75 00
16	Hire of laborer, clothing and rations furnished by Government	Per year	500 00
17	Hire of ox-cart, team, and driver, rations furnished by owner	Per day	10 00
18	Hire of same, rations furnished by Government	... do	5 00

REVISION OF THE SCHEDULES OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH LAST.

Since the adoption of our schedules for the months of February and March last the financial bills passed by Congress taxing the currency have seriously impaired the value of the old issues of Confederate Treasury notes. At this juncture large numbers of horses and mules were impressed and paid for in a currency which was a few days thereafter to be taxed 33⅓ per cent.

The board of State commissioners having adjourned, and one of its members being out of the State, it could not be convened in time to review our schedule of prices. Under this state of facts we have re-examined and rearranged our tariff of prices, so far as we have been advised of recent impressments, proposing in this mode to remedy any diminution of valuation which may have resulted from the action of Congress upon the currency. Therefore, we assess the average value of artillery or wagon horses or mules impressed since the passage of the currency bill of the 17th February last at $600. This award will entitle each person to receive higher compensation accordingly as each horse or mule recently impressed may be considered as being a first, second, or third class artillery or wagon horse or mule, whether the parties appeal to our board or not, and the impressing officers and agents should forthwith call on all those persons of whom they impressed horses or mules and propose a settlement on the foregoing basis; but allowing to each person only such prices as first, second, or third class artillery or wagon horses or mules may have been estimated at by the local or county appraisers, assuming our average appraisement of $600 as a fair medium valuation. This, then, would allow a maximum price of $800 and a minimum price of $400, making $600 the average price, thus allowing more for first-class horses or mules, and proportionately less for the inferior, as they may fall below the grade of first class. The county appraisement will be the guide in making these settlements, but within the limits of our maximum price of $800 and our minimum price of $400. This plan, perhaps, would be most satisfactory to the people, for whatever price the county appraisers agreed upon should be deemed fair within the range of our minimum price of $400 and our maximum price of $800, payment of whatever amount awarded to be made in the new issues of Treasury notes.

The impressing officers in those instances where there were no arbitrators or local appraisements for horses or mules impressed should in all such cases themselves re-estimate the value of horses or mules thus impressed, and allow in each case such additional compensation as would, within the limits of our schedule rates, appear just and proper. But if, after this revaluation and settlement, any person should not be satisfied, the party could then appeal to our board and have the case reconsidered.

All appeals and communications should be addressed, post-paid, Mr. D. K. Whitaker, secretary of the board, box 995, Richmond post-office, Va., and who may be consulted at his office in the Department of the Quartermaster-General.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, the 31st day of January next.

E. W. HUBARD,
ROBT. GIBBONEY,
Commissioners for Virginia.

By command of the Secretary of War:

JNO. WITHERS,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 30, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding, Petersburg:

Deserters from the Twenty-fourth Corps report the Eighth Corps on this side, in rear of the Twenty-fourth. Scout's report Gregg's cavalry on this side, near the mouth of the Chickahominy.

J. LONGSTREET.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 30, 1864.

General R. E. LEE,
Commanding.

Your letter* of to-day is just received. I think that a division from the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Corps each have gone off with General Butler, but that the balance of the two corps are here, and the Eighth Corps with them. The objection to a move by us against any force on this side is that the enemy can re-enforce largely against us, unless you could co-operate so as to prevent the enemy from making such re-enforcements. If I could get a reliable division, such as Pickett's, to assist me in any operations on this side I could move out with safety and ascertain whether we could break through the enemy's line, but with the forces that I now have, I think to attempt it would be a little hazardous.

J. LONGSTREET,
Lieutenant-General.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST ARMY CORPS,
December 30, 1864.

COMMANDING OFFICER GARY'S BRIGADE:

Send out special scouts to ascertain position of Gregg's cavalry, and to watch him.

By command of Lieutenant-General Longstreet:

O. LATROBE,
Major and Assistant Adjutant General.

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*Not found.

Tabular report of heavy artillery and artillery in position serving with Army of Northern Virginia for defense of Richmond and Petersburg, on or near James River.

Battalion.	Company and commander.	No. of men on rolls.	Total No. of guns.	Caliber of guns.
9th Georgia Battalion, Maj. A. Leyden.	Barnes' battery, *a* Capt. William Barnes.	123	5	Two 10-inch sea-coast mortars, one 4.62 rifle gun, one 32-pounder rifle gun, one 10-pounder Parrott gun, one 8 inch shell gun, three 24-pounder siege guns, three 12-pounder field howitzers, three 12-pounder boat howitzers, twenty-five 6-pounder guns.
	Guess' battery, Capt. E. H. Guess.	145	10	
	Wolihin's battery, Capt. A. M. Wolihin.	109	7	
	Peeples' battery, *b* Capt. T. M. Peeples.	142	11	
	Everett's battery, *c* Capt. W. S. Everett.	126	7	
Total		645	40	
Drewry's Bluff, Capt. J. D. Simms, commanding post.	Company A, **d* Captain Holmes	27	.....	Six 10-inch columbiads, two 8-inch columbiads, one 7-inch Brooke rifle, two 6-inch siege rifles, three 12-pounder howitzers, three 32-pounder smooth-bores.
	Company B, **d* Captain Simms	30	.....	
	Company C, **d* Lieutenant Thurston.	24	18	
	Neblett Artillery. *e* Captain Coleman.	118	.....	
	Dement's battery, Captain Dement.	60	.....	
Total		259	18	
Naval batteries, Lieut. W. L. Bradford, C. S. Navy, commanding.	Semmes *f*	47	3	Four 7-inch Brooke rifles, two 10-inch columbiads, one 10-inch Brooke smooth-bore.
	Brooke, Lieut. Charles Borum	100	4	
Total		147	7	
Smith's battalion, Major Smith:				
Battery Dantzler	Johnston Artillery, Capt. B. J. Epes.	141	4	One 7-inch rifle, one 8-inch rifle, six 10-inch columbiads, one 10-inch mortar.
Battery Garland	South Side Artillery, Capt. J. W. Drewry.	126	2	
Battery Wood	United Artillery, Capt. Thomas Kevill.	87	3	
Total		354	9	
Chaffin's Bluff, Lieut. Col. R. A. Hardaway, temporarily in command. *g*	Lunenburg Artillery, Lieut. J. A. Laffoon.	136	4	Twelve 10-inch columbiads, four 8-inch columbiads, one 20-pounder Parrott, three 64-pounder rifles, two 10-inch sea-coast mortars, one 5.82 rifle columbiad.
	Pamunkey Artillery, Capt. A. J. Jones.	124	9	
	Goochland Artillery, Lieut. J. Guerrant.	144	4	
	James City Artillery, Lieut. L. T. Davis.	81	3	
	Howitzer company, Lieut. J. E. Winder.	49	3	
Total		534	23	
Grand total		1,939	97	

a Commanded by Lieut. G. A. Lofton.
b Commanded by Lieut. W. J. Born.
c Commanded by Lieut. W. R. Jackson.
d Colonel Terrett, commanding, absent on fifteen days' furlough.
e Captain Coleman, commanding Neblett [Artillery], belongs to Major Smith's battalion artillery; absent on furlough.
f There is at this battery a 3-inch rifled fort piece, but no regular detachment for it It has been used to fire upon parties of the enemy to avoid using the great guns.
g Lieutenant-Colonel Maury and Maj. R. C. Taylor prisoners of war. Maj. A. L. Rogers absent sick.

*C. S. Marine Corps.

Heavy artillery and mortars serving with First Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, manned by light artillery companies.

Battalion.	Battery.	24-pounder mortars.	12-pounder mortars.	8-inch mortar.
Haskell's battalion	Captain Lamkin's	21		
	Captain Garden's		4	
	Captain Flanner's			1

Total, 26 mortars.

Heavy artillery and mortars serving with Third Corps, Army of Northern Virginia.

Battalion and field officers.	Battery.	Coehorn mortars.	12-pounder mortars.	8-inch mortars.	8-inch howitzers.	8-inch columbiad.
McIntosh's (Lieut. Col. D. G. McIntosh, Maj. Joseph McGraw).	Captain Hurt's				1	
	Captain Donald's				1	
	Captain Price's			2		
Poague's (Lieut. Col. W. T. Poague)	Captain Richards'			2		
	Captain Johnston's	2				
Richardson's (Lieut. Col. Charles Richardson).	Captain Grandy's	7		2		
Lane's (Maj. John Lane)	Captain Patterson's					1
Owen's (Maj. W. M. Owen)	Captain Walker's	3				
	Captain Dickenson's		2			

Total, 20 mortars and 3 guns.

Heavy guns and mortars in charge of field artillery, Anderson's corps.

Battalion.	Battery.	8-inch columbiad.	24-pounder howitzer.	12-pounder howitzers.	12-pounder mountain howitzers.	8-inch mortars.	24-pounder Coehorn mortars.	12-pounder mortars.
Blount's	Lieutenant Langhorne's					2	3	2
	Wright's				1			
Coit's	Bradford's					2		
	Lieutenant Atkinson's						4	
	Kelly's		1	1				
12th Virginia	Sturdivant's					2	5	7
Stribling's	Macon's	1						
	Sullivan's			1				
	Marshall's				1			

Total, 27 mortars and 6 guns.

[First indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARTILLERY CORPS,
January 2, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded.

W. N. PENDLETON,
Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery.

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
January 3, 1865.

Respectfully forwarded in response to letter of General Cooper of December [20], 1864.

In absence of General Lee:

W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 30, 1864.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE, *Military Secretary, Richmond, Va.:*

Believing the President will be gratified to know the exact state of affairs in Georgia and South Carolina, I have ordered Brig. Gen. L. S. Baker, who has returned from there disabled for the field by his old wound, to proceed to Richmond and report to you. Obtain an early interview for him. He passed through all the scenes from Augusta to the evacuation of Savannah, and can report fully, and it is very important the exact state of affairs now should be known.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

(Copy to President Davis.)

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 30, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. and Insp. Gen., Hdqrs. Dept. of North Carolina:

COLONEL: I respectfully request that all movements and dispositions of troops in this district for the defense of the Cape Fear, whether of troops heretofore belonging here, or others arriving or departing, will be communicated to and through me, especially all involving the use of the transportation I have provided for special purposes and the services of the district staff. I do this for the public service in all parts of this command to provide against the unnecessary interruptions and delays which have occurred and because it is due to the position I hold here by rank and by special assignment. I beg leave to state that I entirely but respectfully object to General Orders, No. 14, issued after I had proceeded to that portion of my command most immediately threatened, as far as the order concerns myself, as altogether unnecessary, the defenses of the mouth of the river being a part, and a part only, of my care.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 30, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON, *Asst. Adjt. and Insp. Gen., Present:*

COLONEL: I have to inform you that I have ordered Clingman's brigade to move to Camp Whiting, one mile from town, as a more suitable position. Camp Lamb is not a proper place for a brigade, and is needed for other purposes.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 30, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant and Inspector General, Present:

On the arrival of Colquitt's brigade I directed it to encamp near Clingman's, at Camp Whiting, to await further orders from the general commanding.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 30, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. and Insp. Gen., Hdqrs. Dept. of North Carolina:

COLONEL: The reserves having been ordered to Goldsborough, and the Governor having returned the home guards, I have to call the attention of the general commanding to the inadequacy of the garrison of Wilmington to perform even ordinary guard duty. There is but one company at present (Bass', unattached), for Hahr's small battalion of light-duty men cannot be considered permanent, and will probably soon be withdrawn. To-day we have men on guard who were on guard yesterday. The City Battalion, small as it is, must be returned to duty equally important. The post necessary to prevent improper ingress and egress has been reduced even below efficiency; the boarding of ships, the reception, guarding, and care of the large amount of public stores, magazines, and batteries require at all times a suitable and permanent force. I suggest an exchange for the reserves, that the remaining companies of the Tenth Regiment, being artillery, be sent here, together with the Sixty-eighth, for the purpose. The former are good artillerists and engineer troops, and are needed here.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

FISHER, *December 30, 1864—8 a. m.*

Major HILL:

Four blockaders off; wind southwest.

LAMB,
Colonel.

MASONBOROUGH, *December 30, 1864.*

Major VAN DER HORST:

Only two vessels in sight this morning.

C. A. ROACH,
Lieutenant, Commanding Picket.

Abstract from tri-monthly return of the Department of Richmond, Lieut. Gen. Richard S. Ewell commanding, for December 30, 1864.

Command.	Present for duty.		Effective total present.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Prisoners.	
	Officers.	Men.				Officers.	Men.
Tennessee brigade	56	495	569	713	1,627	49	484
Local Defense Brigade	68	562	655	742	2,746	.....	.....
Barton's command	91	1,061	1,130	1,414	3,911	2	26
Second Battalion Virginia Reserves	16	122	149	202	807	1	.....
Total	231	2,240	2,503	3,071	9,091	52	510
Gary's brigade	64	1,197	1,465	1,701	3,492	20	354
Richmond Artillery Defenses	60	1,146	1,258	1,430	3,386	3	1
Ninth Georgia Battalion Artillery	18	402	426	456	632	3	48
Total	78	1,548	1,684	1,886	4,018	6	49
Grand total	373	4,985	5,652	6,658	16,601	78	913

WILMINGTON, *December 31, 1864.*

Hon. J. A. SEDDON,
Richmond:

Most of the cargo of the Fry will be saved. Vessel will be lost.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *December 31, 1864.*

Lieut. Col. W. H. TAYLOR,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Petersburg:

All is perfectly quiet. Nothing as yet heard of the enemy's fleet.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

WILMINGTON, *December 31, 1864.*

Col. JOHN B. SALE,
Military Secretary, Richmond, Va.:

In the emergency now upon us we have three resources: Emancipation and the negro, a faithful and efficient execution of the conscript law, and the large unemployed army in the Trans-Mississippi. The first would be fatal, the next has been too long and fatally postponed, the last is available, only requiring tact, energy, and will. If the East is lost, the West must follow; if the East is saved, the West can be redeemed. Use this for our cause.

BRAXTON BRAGG.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, December 31, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
Commanding Third Military District, Wilmington:

GENERAL: After considering your communication of 30th instant in all its bearings and aspects, the commanding general sees no reason

to doubt either the propriety or necessity of his General Order, No. 14, to which you object. He regrets to have to call your attention to the tenor and language of that communication as neither respectful nor subordinate from a junior to his commanding officer.

I have the honor to be, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 31, 1864.

Lieut. Col. ARCHER ANDERSON,
Asst. Adjt. Gen., Hdqrs. Dept. of North Carolina, Present:

COLONEL: As my attention is called to my communication of yesterday as neither respectful nor subordinate, I must say that as, in my opinion, I have sufficient and reasonable grounds, both for my application and for my objection in that note, and that as nothing was further from my intention than either want of respect or insubordination, I regret exceedingly that the commanding general should place so harsh a construction upon my language.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
Wilmington, December 31, 1864.

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING,
Commanding Third Military District:

GENERAL: In reply to your communication of yesterday respecting the permanent lights at the mouth of the river, I am instructed to say that the purpose of the commanding general's recent visit to the forts was to see to the entire restoration of the condition existing before the bombardment. Not meeting with you, and desiring to lose no time, he gave orders to this effect to General Hébert, and desires that they be executed. Vessels which have gone out since the departure of the enemy's fleet will correct former reports and restore confidence; and every means should be in use to aid such as may now come in.

I am, general, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 31, 1864.

Lieut. Col. A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General, Hdqrs. Dept. of North Carolina:

COLONEL: Please to ask the general if, until the arrival of troops for the city garrison, he will authorize General Hoke to furnish suitable details for guard duty on my requisition, and likewise to send proper outpost guards to Masonborough, the sounds, and Virginia Creek. This is a duty which has always been performed by the supporting

force, and properly belongs to it. The removal of the reserves, the disbanding of the home guards, and the return of the department battalion to their work on details makes it absolutely necessary for me to press my request of yesterday for the Tenth North Carolina and the Sixty-eighth. The reserves will supply their places in General Baker's command.

Very respectfully,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

[Indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF NORTH CAROLINA,
December 31, 1864.

Respectfully returned.

Hoke's division is held for a special purpose, and it is not deemed advisable to use it as indicated. It is supposed that all the duties proposed can be performed by the senior reserves, the artillery and cavalry.

By order of General Bragg:

A. ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
Wilmington, December 31, 1864.

Brigadier-General HÉBERT,
Commanding, &c., Smithville:

GENERAL: From what I saw in the action of 24th and 25th, I think it advisable to provide at once cover for all guns exposed to bombardment at a distance, say two miles. The positions that ships can occupy can readily be defined and the guns covered in that direction, reducing the field of fire simply to the bars and channel ways, which are within our effective range. This is not much over one mile. At Fort Campbell, for example, the right of the four guns bearing on the bar might be covered from fire proceeding from the southern shoal. The guns firing on the Rip ought all to be put in embrasure. Each company or detachment stationed at any battery ought to construct for themselves light bomb-proof shelters, near to their posts. By building these in the rear of traverses or against the rampart slope at Campbell or the counterscarp at Caswell, they will require but little earth and may be readily put up by the men. The same should be done at Bald Head, both in Fort Holmes and along the lines. This will not only greatly conduce to the security of all not immediately at the guns, but as the severity of the enemy's fire and its great range will effectually destroy all wooden buildings, these shelters by their number will make shift for quarters. Logs squared on two sides only can be made use of. I have ordered down a large amount of lumber to Fisher. I am so busy with my report that I will not be able to come down before Monday. In the meantime use all the means in your power to complete what we are at. I think it will be found necessary to make a left flank or face to Buchanan as well as to put up a strong battery between there and the Mound firing on the channel. I observed some light-draught boats got over on the shoals in a position to enfilade Buchanan, or nearly so, the battery having but

one gun to bear. The traverses I find to be a perfect protection against enfilade. Take immediate steps to run a line of telegraph posts from your office to Reeves' Point. I want to put down a submarine telegraph between Fort Fisher and that point.

Yours, very truly,

W. H. C. WHITING,
Major-General.

SMITHVILLE, *December 31, 1864.*

Maj. Gen. W. H. C. WHITING:

DEAR WHITING: I have been anxiously hoping to meet you since the attack on Fort Fisher, and would have gone there to have a talk with you had I not considered that both from you and General Bragg I had implied orders to remain here. For fear that we may not meet for several days, I write. Thank God, you have been successful, and all I have seen thus far highly applaud you. All say you exposed yourself too much. But I, reasoning that you had untried troops, can understand why you thought it necessary for you to be on the parapet. I wish I could have been there to do the same. I hear high praise of Lamb. Tell him that I congratulate him and am truly happy that he has gained so much credit. I hope he will now see what you and I have wished him to understand always, that the credit of fighting his fort would be his. I am told that all my troops did very well—I mean such troops as had been under my command for some time. I get no credit for anything; I know this; I did not expect it under the circumstances. Do not get into any quarrel. We must bear with all. I feel sacrificed thus far.

Yours, truly,

LOUIS HÉBERT,
Brigadier-General.

HEADQUARTERS,
December 31, 1864.

Colonel LIPSCOMB,
Sugar Loaf:

You will return to Masonborough, leaving a squadron at Sugar Loaf with the battery.

By command of Major-General Whiting:

W. C. STRONG,
Aide-de-Camp.

DECEMBER 31, 1864.

Colonel LIPSCOMB,
Sugar Loaf:

By direction of the major-general commanding, you will remain in command at Sugar Loaf, with your regiment and Paris' battery, picketing carefully all the approaches. Southerland's battery will also remain with you until further orders.

JAS. H. HILL,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WILMINGTON, *December 31, 1864.*

Major-General HOKE,

Sugar Loaf:

General Bragg directs that Kirkland and Hagood march to join Colquitt and Clingman at Camp Whiting, two miles from here on plank road, and wishes to see you here this morning. Telegraph Major Cameron if you want steamer to come for baggage. Let the field batteries and cavalry await orders from General Whiting.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Copy referred to General Whiting.)

Strength of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee commanding, December 31, 1864, as shown by inspection reports.

Troops.	Aggregate present for duty.	Aggregate present.	Aggregate present and absent.	Present effective.	Pieces of artillery.
First Army Corps (Longstreet):					
Pickett's division	6,372	7,841	12,042	7,083	.....
Field's division	5,134	6,096	11,746	4,905	.....
Kershaw's division	3,842	4,673	10,812	3,850	.....
Total	15,348	18,610	34,600	15,838	.....
Second Army Corps (Gordon):					
Rodes' division	3,339	4,223	12,601	3,286	.....
Early's division	2,456	2,982	8,247	2,447	.....
Gordon's division	2,816	3,388	13,489	2,721	.....
Total	8,611	10,593	34,337	8,454	.....
Third Army Corps (Hill):					
Heth's division	3,886	4,588	9,338	4,303	.....
Wilcox's division	6,247	7,218	11,124	5,999	.....
Mahone's division	4,934	6,031	12,627	4,878	.....
Total	15,067	17,837	33,089	15,180	.....
Anderson's corps (Anderson):					
Hoke's division	5,626	6,155	11,854	5,668	.....
Johnson's division	7,076	7,975	13,123	6,959	.....
Total	12,702	14,130	24,977	12,627	.....
Army of the Valley District (Early):					
Staff	7	7	10	7	.....
Wharton's division	1,983	2,451	6,684	1,841	.....
Artillery Valley District	942	1,153	2,391	1,047	28
Total	2,932	3,611	9,085	2,895	28
Cavalry Corps (Hampton):					
Staff	10	10	14	10	.....
W. H. F. Lee's division	3,498	4,125	6,475	2,601	.....
Butler's division	2,166	2,938	7,796	1,415	.....
Total	5,674	7,073	14,285	4,026	.....
Grand total	60,334	71,854	150,373	59,020	28

NOTE FROM INSPECTION REPORT.—Dearing's brigade has been temporarily assigned to Butler's division.

Organization of the Army of Northern Virginia, General Robert E. Lee, C. S. Army, commanding, as shown by inspection reports, December 31, 1864.

FIRST ARMY CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. JAMES LONGSTREET.

PICKETT'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. GEORGE E. PICKETT.

Steuart's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE H. STEUART.

9th Virginia, Col. James J. Phillips.
14th Virginia, Maj. William D. Shelton.
38th Virginia, Col. George K. Griggs.
53d Virginia, Col. William R. Aylett.
57th Virginia, Col. Clement R. Fontaine.

Hunton's Brigade.

Col. HENRY GANTT.

8th Virginia, Maj. William N. Berkeley.
18th Virginia, Col. Henry A. Carrington.
19th Virginia, Capt. Waller M. Boyd.
28th Virginia, Lieut. Col. William L. Wingfield.
56th Virginia, Col. William E. Green.

Corse's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. MONTGOMERY D. CORSE.

15th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Emmett M. Morrison.
17th Virginia, Col. Arthur Herbert.
29th Virginia, Col. James Giles.
30th Virginia, Col. Robert S. Chew.
32d Virginia, Col. Edgar B. Montague.

Terry's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM R. TERRY.

1st Virginia, Lieut. Col. Frank H. Langley.
3d Virginia, Col. Joseph Mayo, jr.
7th Virginia, Col. Charles C. Flowerree.
11th Virginia, Capt. John Holmes Smith.
24th Virginia, Capt. William W. Bentley.

FIELD'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. CHARLES W. FIELD.

Anderson's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. GEORGE T. ANDERSON.

7th Georgia, Maj. John F. Kiser.
8th Georgia, Col. John R. Towers.
9th Georgia, Capt. S. A. Jameson.
11th Georgia, Col. Francis H. Little.
59th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Bolivar H. Gee.

Benning's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. HENRY L. BENNING.

2d Georgia, Capt. Thomas Chaffin, jr.
15th Georgia, Maj. Peter J. Shannon.
17th Georgia, Lieut. Col. William A. Barden.
20th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Eli M. Seago.

Bratton's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN BRATTON.

1st South Carolina, Col. James R. Hagood.
2d South Carolina Rifles, Lieut. Col. David L. Donald.
5th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. John D. Wylie.
6th South Carolina, Col. John M. Steedman.
Palmetto Sharpshooters, Lieut. Col. John W. Goss.

Texas Brigade.

Col. FREDERICK S. BASS.

3d Arkansas, Lieut. Col. Robert S. Taylor.
1st Texas, Capt. William A. Bedell.
4th Texas, Lieut. Col. Clinton M. Winkler.
5th Texas, Capt. W. T. Hill.

Law's Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM F. PERRY.

4th Alabama, Col. Pinckney D. Bowles.
15th Alabama, Capt. F. Key Shaaff.
44th Alabama, Lieut. Col. John A. Jones.
47th Alabama, Capt. Henry C. Lindsey.
48th Alabama, Maj. John W. Wigginton.

KERSHAW'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. JOSEPH B. KERSHAW.

Conner's Brigade.

Col. JOHN D. KENNEDY.

2d South Carolina, Capt. James D. Graham.
3d South Carolina, Capt. John K. G. Nance.
7th South Carolina, Capt. T. A. Hudgens.
8th South Carolina, Capt. Duncan McIntyre.
15th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. Frederick S. Lewie.
20th South Carolina, Maj. John M. Partlow.
3d South Carolina Battalion, Capt. P. F. Spofford.

Bryan's Brigade.

Col. JAMES P. SIMMS.

10th Georgia, Capt. John T. Stovall.
50th Georgia, Maj. John M. Spence.
51st Georgia, Col. James Dickey.
53d Georgia, Lieut. Col. W. F. Hartsfield.

Wofford's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. DUDLEY M. DU BOSE.

16th Georgia, Maj. John H. Skelton.
18th Georgia, Col. Joseph Armstrong.
24th Georgia, Col. C. C. Sanders.
Cobb's Legion, Lieut. Col. Luther J. Glenn.
Phillips Legion, Lieut. Col. Joseph Hamilton.
3d Georgia Battalion Sharpshooters, Lieut. Col. Nathan L. Hutchins, jr.

Humphreys' Brigade.

Maj. G. B. GERALD.

13th Mississippi, Maj. George L. Donald.
17th Mississippi, Capt. Jesse C. Cochran.
18th Mississippi, Lieut. Joseph Buckles.
21st Mississippi, Maj. William H. Fitz Gerald.

SECOND ARMY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. JOHN B. GORDON.

RODES' DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. BRYAN GRIMES.

Battle's Brigade.

Col. CHARLES FORSYTH.

3d Alabama, Capt. Watkins Phelan.
5th Alabama, Col. E. Lafayette Hobson.
6th Alabama, Capt. Rinaldo M. Greene.
12th Alabama, Lieut. Col. John C. Goodgame.
61st Alabama, Maj. William E. Pinckard.

Grimes' Brigade.

Col. DAVID G. COWAND.

2d North Carolina Battalion, Capt. Joseph W. Coker.
32d North Carolina, Capt. Joseph W. Coker.
43d North Carolina, Capt. Carey Whitaker.
45th North Carolina, Col. John R. Winston.
53d North Carolina, Capt. John W. Rierson.

Cox's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM R. COX.

1st North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William M. Parsley.
2d North Carolina, Capt. Richard D. Hancock.
3d North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William M. Parsley.
4th North Carolina, Capt. Jesse F. Stansill.
14th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. William A. Johnston.
30th North Carolina, Capt. John C. McMillan.

Cook's Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM H. PEEBLES.

4th Georgia, Col. William H. Willis.
12th Georgia, Capt. Oliver F. Evans.
21st Georgia, Capt. Henry T. Battle.
44th Georgia, Lieut. Col. James W. Beck.

EARLY'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. JOHN PEGRAM.

Pegram's Brigade.

Col. JOHN S. HOFFMAN.

13th Virginia, Maj. Charles T. Crittenden.
31st Virginia, Maj. William P. Cooper.
49th Virginia, Capt. R. M. Spicer.
52d Virginia, Lieut. Col. John D. Lilley.
58th Virginia, Lieut. Col. John G. Kasey.

Lewis' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM G. LEWIS.

6th North Carolina, Capt. John A. McPherson.
21st North Carolina, Capt. James F. Beall.
54th North Carolina, Capt. Lunsford A. Paschall.
57th North Carolina, Capt. John Beard.

Johnston's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ROBERT D. JOHNSTON.

1st North Carolina Battalion Sharpshooters, Capt. R. E. Wilson.
5th North Carolina, Capt. Edward M. Duguid.
12th North Carolina, Bvt. Maj. Kemp Plummer.
20th North Carolina, Capt. Pleasant A. Smith.
23d North Carolina, Capt. Abner D. Peace.

GORDON'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. CLEMENT A. EVANS.

Evans' Brigade.

Col. JOHN H. BAKER.

12th Georgia Battalion, Capt. George W. Johnson.
13th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Richard Maltbie.
26th Georgia, Maj. Benjamin F. Grace.
31st Georgia, Col. John H. Lowe.
38th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Philip E. Davant.
60th Georgia, Maj. Waters B. Jones.
61st Georgia, Capt. Eliphalet F. Sharp.

Terry's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM TERRY.

2d Virginia, 4th Virginia, 5th Virginia, 27th Virginia, 33d Virginia, } Col. Abraham Spengler.
21st Virginia, 25th Virginia, 42d Virginia, 44th Virginia, 48th Virginia, } Col. William A. Witcher.
10th Virginia, 33d Virginia, 37th Virginia, } Lieut. Col. Dorilas H. Lee Martz.

YORK'S COMMAND.

Hays' and Stafford's Brigades.

Col. WILLIAM R. PECK.

1st Louisiana, 14th Louisiana, } Capt. James Scott.
2d Louisiana, Capt. W. H. Noel.
5th Louisiana, 6th Louisiana, 7th Louisiana, } Capt. John A. Russell.
8th Louisiana, Lieut. N. J. Sandlin.
9th Louisiana, Capt. Cornelius Shively.
10th Louisiana, 15th Louisiana, } Lieut. J. B. W. Penrose.

THIRD ARMY CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. AMBROSE P. HILL.

HETH'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. HENRY HETH.

Davis' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH R. DAVIS.

1st Confederate Battalion, Maj. Francis B. McClung.
2d Mississippi, Col. John M. Stone.
11th Mississippi, Maj. Reuben O. Reynolds.
26th Mississippi, Maj. Tully F. Parker.
42d Mississippi, Lieut. Col. Andrew M. Nelson.
55th North Carolina, Capt. Robert W. Thomas.

Cooke's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHN R. COOKE.

15th North Carolina, Col. William H. Yarborough.
27th North Carolina, Maj. Joseph C. Webb.
46th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Alexander C. McAlister.
48th North Carolina, Col. Samuel H. Walkup.

MacRae's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM MACRAE.

11th North Carolina, Capt. W. L. Grier.
26th North Carolina, Col. John R. Lane.
44th North Carolina, Col. Thomas C. Singeltary
47th North Carolina, Capt. Sidney W. Mitchell.
52d North Carolina, Capt. John M. Alexander.

WILCOX'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. CADMUS M. WILCOX.

Lane's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JAMES H. LANE.

7th North Carolina, Col. William Lee Davidson.
18th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. John W. McGill.
28th North Carolina, Capt. Thomas V. Apperson.
33d North Carolina, Col. Robert V. Cowan.
37th North Carolina, Maj. Jackson L. Bost.

Thomas' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. EDWARD L. THOMAS.

14th Georgia, Col. Richard P. Lester.
35th Georgia, Lieut. Col. William H. McCullohs.
45th Georgia, Col. Thomas J. Simmons.
49th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Wiley J. Williams.

McGowan's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. SAMUEL MCGOWAN.

1st South Carolina, Col. Charles W. McCreary.
12th South Carolina, Capt. Robert M. Kerr.
13th South Carolina, Col. Isaac F. Hunt.
14th South Carolina, Capt. William R. White.
Orr's [First South Carolina] Rifles, Capt. W. H. Holcombe.

Scales' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED M. SCALES.

13th North Carolina, Col. Joseph H. Hyman.
16th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Abel J. Cloud.
22d North Carolina, Col. Thomas S. Gallaway, jr.
34th North Carolina, Col. William L. J. Lowrance.
38th North Carolina, Col. John Ashford.

MAHONE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM MAHONE.

Sanders' Brigade.

Col. WILLIAM H. FORNEY.

8th Alabama, Maj. John P. Emrich.
9th Alabama, Col. J. Horace King.
10th Alabama, Capt. John F. Smith.
11th Alabama, Col. George E. Tayloe.
14th Alabama, Capt. Simon G. Perry.

Harris' Brigade.

Brig. Gen. NATHANIEL H. HARRIS.

12th Mississippi, Capt. R. R. Applewhite.
16th Mississippi, Lieut. Col. James H. Duncan.
19th Mississippi, Col. Richard W. Phipps.
48th Mississippi, Col. Joseph M. Jayne.

Weisiger's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. DAVID A. WEISIGER.

6th Virginia, Col. George T. Rogers.
12th Virginia, Maj. John R. Lewellen.
16th Virginia, Capt. Leroy R. Kilby.
41st Virginia, Lieut. Col. Joseph P. Minetree.
61st Virginia, Col. Virginius D. Groner.

Sorrel's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. G. MOXLEY SORREL.

2d Georgia Battalion, Capt. W. T. Walker.
3d Georgia, Capt. James W. Mathews.
10th Georgia Battalion, Capt. C. F. Hill.
22d Georgia, Capt. George W. Thomas.
48th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Matthew R. Hall
64th Georgia, Lieut. Col. Walter H. Weems.

Finegan's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOSEPH FINEGAN

2d Florida, Capt. John B. G. O'Neill.
5th Florida, Lieut. Col. William Baya.
8th Florida, Col. David Lang.
9th Florida, Maj. Thomas E. Clarke.
10th Florida, Lieut. Col. William W. Scott.
11th Florida, Bonaud's battalion (two companies), } Col. Theodore W. Brevard.

ANDERSON'S CORPS.

Lieut. Gen. RICHARD H. ANDERSON.

HOKE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. ROBERT F. HOKE.

Clingman's Brigade.

Col. HECTOR MCKETHAN.

8th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Rufus A. Barrier.
31st North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Charles W. Knight.
51st North Carolina, Capt. James W. Lippitt.
61st North Carolina, Col. William S. Devane.

Colquitt's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. ALFRED H. COLQUITT.

6th Georgia, Col. John T. Lofton.
19th Georgia, Col. James H. Neal.
23d Georgia, Col. Marcus R. Ballenger.
27th Georgia, Capt. Elisha D. Graham.
28th Georgia, Capt. John A. Johnson.

Hagood's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. JOHNSON HAGOOD.

7th South Carolina Battalion, Lieut. Col. James H. Rion.
11th South Carolina, Col. F. Hay Gantt.
21st South Carolina, Col. Robert F. Graham.
25th South Carolina, Col. Charles H. Simonton.
27th South Carolina, Col. Peter C. Gaillard.

Kirkland's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM W. KIRKLAND.

17th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Thomas H. Sharp.
42d North Carolina, Col. John E. Brown.
66th North Carolina, Col. John H. Nethercutt.

JOHNSON'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. BUSHROD R. JOHNSON.

Gracie's Brigade.

Col. YOUNG M. MOODY.

23d Alabama Battalion Sharpshooters, Maj. Nicholas Stallworth.
41st Alabama, Col. Martin L. Stansel.
43d Alabama, Lieut. Col. John J. Jolly.
59th Alabama, Capt. James Lang.
60th Alabama, Lieut. Col. Daniel S. Troy.

Ransom's Brigade.

Col. HENRY M. RUTLEDGE.

24th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. John L. Harris.
25th North Carolina, Maj. Matthew N. Love.
35th North Carolina, Col. James T. Johnson.
49th North Carolina, Lieut. Col. James T. Davis.
56th North Carolina, Maj. John W. Graham.

Elliott's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. WILLIAM H. WALLACE.

17th South Carolina, Col. Fitz William McMaster.
18th South Carolina, Lieut. Col. W. B. Allison.
22d South Carolina, Col. William G. Burt.
23d South Carolina, Col. Henry L. Benbow.
26th South Carolina, Col. Alexander D. Smith.
Holcombe Legion, Col. William J. Crawley.

Wise's Brigade.

Col. JOHN T. GOODE.

26th Virginia, Capt. William K. Perrin.
34th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Randolph Harrison.
46th Virginia, Capt. John H. White.
59th Virginia, Maj. Robert G. Mosby.

ARMY OF THE VALLEY DISTRICT.

Lieut. Gen. JUBAL A. EARLY.

BRECKINRIDGE'S OR WHARTON'S DIVISION.

Brig. Gen. GABRIEL C. WHARTON.

Echols' Brigade.

Lieut. Col. JOHN C. MCDONALD.

22d Virginia, Lieut. Montreville P. Roach.
23d Virginia Battalion, Maj. William Blessing.
26th Virginia Battalion, Capt. Edmund S. Read.

Wharton's Brigade.

Maj. PETER OTEY.

30th Virginia Battalion Sharpshooters, Capt. Charles E. Vawter.
45th Virginia, Capt. Robert H. Logan.
50th Virginia, Maj. Lynville J. Perkins.
51st Virginia, Maj. William T. Akers.

Smith's Brigade.

Col. THOMAS SMITH.

36th Virginia, Capt. Francis Thornton.
45th Virginia Battalion, Maj. Blake L. Woodson.
60th Virginia, Capt. James W. Johnston.

ARTILLERY CORPS.

Col. THOMAS H. CARTER.

Nelson's Battalion.

Col. WILLIAM NELSON.

Kirkpatrick's (Virginia) battery.
Milledge's (Georgia) battery.
Snead's (Virginia) battery.

Braxton's Battalion.

Lieut. Col. CARTER M. BRAXTON.

Carpenter's (Virginia) battery.
Cooper's (Virginia) battery.
Hardwicke's (Virginia) battery.

Cutshaw's Battalion.

Maj. WILFRED E. CUTSHAW.

Fry's (Virginia) battery.
Garber's (Virginia) battery.
Jones' (Virginia) battery.

McLaughlin's Battalion.

Maj. WILLIAM MCLAUGHLIN.

Bryan's (Virginia) battery.
Chapman's (Virginia) battery.
Lowry's (Virginia) battery.

CAVALRY CORPS.

Maj. Gen. WADE HAMPTON.

BUTLER'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. MATTHEW C. BUTLER.

Butler's Brigade.

Col. B. HUGER RUTLEDGE.

4th South Carolina, Capt. J. C. Foster.
5th South Carolina, Capt. Zimmerman Davis.
6th South Carolina, Maj. Thomas B. Ferguson.

Young's Brigade.

Lieut. Col. WILLIAM W. RICH.

10th Georgia, Capt. L. J. Smith.
Cobb's (Georgia) Legion, Lieut. Jefferson Bassett.
Phillips (Georgia) Legion, Capt. Thomas G. Wilkes.
Jeff Davis (Mississippi) Legion, Maj. Ivey F. Lewis.

*Dearing's Brigade.**

Brig. Gen. JAMES DEARING.

8th Georgia, Capt. S. B. Jones.
4th North Carolina, Col. Dennis D. Ferebee.
16th North Carolina Battalion, Capt. William K. Lane.
Battery (Virginia) horse artillery, Capt. Edward Graham.

LEE'S DIVISION.

Maj. Gen. WILLIAM H. F. LEE.

Barringer's Brigade.

Brig. Gen. RUFUS BARRINGER.

1st North Carolina, Col. William H. Cheek.
2d North Carolina, Col. William P. Roberts.
3d North Carolina, Lieut. Col. Roger Moore.
5th North Carolina, Maj. James H. McNeill.

Chambliss' Brigade.

Col. RICHARD L. T. BEALE.

9th Virginia, Lieut. Col. Thomas Waller.
10th Virginia, Maj. William B. Clement.
13th Virginia, Capt. Alexander Savage.

*Temporarily assigned to Butler's divison.

*Organization of troops in the Department of Richmond, Lieut. Gen. Richard S. Ewell, C. S. Army, commanding, December 31, 1864.**

B. R. Johnson's Brigade.

Col. JOHN M. HUGHS.

17th Tennessee, 23d Tennessee, 25th Tennessee, 44th Tennessee, } Col. Horace Ready. Capt. Jonathan E. Spencer.
63d Tennessee, Capt. A. A. Blair.

Barton's Brigade.

Col. M. LEWIS CLARK.

18th Georgia Battalion, Maj. William S. Basinger.
18th Virginia Battalion (Heavy Artillery), Maj. Mark B. Hardin.
25th Virginia Battalion, Lieut. Col. Wyatt M. Elliott.
1st Virginia Reserves Battalion, Lieut. Col. Richard T. W. Duke.
3d Virginia Reserves Battalion, Maj. George Chrisman.
4th Virginia Reserves Battalion, Lieut. Col. Samuel M. Wallace.

Gary's Cavalry Brigade.

Maj. EDWARD M. BOYKIN.

7th Georgia, Maj. John N. Davies.
7th South Carolina, Maj. Edward M. Boykin.
Hampton (South Carolina) Legion, Capt. E. A. Thomas.
24th Virginia, Capt. William M. McGruder.
Surry (Virginia) Light Artillery, Capt. James D. Hankins.

First Brigade Virginia Reserves.

Brig. Gen. PATRICK T. MOORE.

1st Virginia Reserves, Col. John B. Danforth.
2d Virginia Reserves, Col. Thomas J. Evans.
2d Virginia Reserves Battalion (detachment), Lieut. W. F. Catlett.
3d Virginia Reserves Battalion (detachment), Capt. Samuel McCune.
President's Guard,† Lieut. J. R. Dickinson.
Provost Guard, Lieut. T. P. A. Bibb.
C. S. Barracks, Lieut. Benjamin Bates.
1st Invalid Battalion,† Capt. John F. C. Potts.

TROOPS FOR LOCAL DEFENSE.‡

Brig. Gen. GEORGE W. C. LEE.

2d Regiment, Col. D. E. Scruggs.
3d Regiment, Col. John McAnerney, jr.
1st Battalion, Maj. Thomas H. Ayres.
4th Battalion, Maj. Martin W. Curlin.
5th Battalion, Lieut. Col. Philip J. Ennis.

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* As shown by inspection reports of December 23–26. Organization of troops in the "Artillery Defenses" not indicated on original.

†The 1st Invalid Battalion, guard at C. S. Barracks, and President's Guard, are composed of disabled and convalescent men belonging to the active forces in the field.

‡This organization is that of November 30, 1864.

ALTERNATE DESIGNATIONS

OF

ORGANIZATIONS MENTIONED IN THIS VOLUME.*

Abbot's (Henry L.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment.*

Abbott's (George R.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Maine Troops, 1st Battalion.*

Abbott's (Joseph C.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 7th Regiment.*

Adams' (James T.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*

Adams' (Zachariah T.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion, Battery D.*

Aiken's (James) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 13th Regiment.*

Akers' (William T.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 51st Regiment.*

Albemarle Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*

Alden's (Alonzo) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 169th Regiment.*

Alexander's (John M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 52d Regiment.*

Alleghany Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*

Allen's (Charles G.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Colored.*

Allen's (Crawford, jr.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*

Allen's (David A.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 39th Regiment.*

Allen's (Henry P.) **Infantry.** See *Salisbury Prison Guard, post.*

Allen's (Richard J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*

Allison's (W. B.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 18th Regiment.*

Amherst Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*

Amory's (William A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment.*

Anable's (Samuel L.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*

Anderson's (Edward C., jr.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 7th Regiment.*

Anderson's (George C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 53d Regiment.*

Anderson's (Robert M.) **Artillery.** See *Richmond Howitzers, post, 1st Company.*

Andrews' (William H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 108th Regiment.*

Angel's (Ashbel W.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 38th Regiment.*

Angel's (James R.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery K.*

Anthony's (George T.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 17th Battery.*

Apperson's (Thomas V.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 28th Regiment.*

Applewhite's (R. R.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 12th Regiment.*

Archer's (Fletcher H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*

Ardrey's (William E.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*

Armistead's (Andrew D.) **Artillery.** See *Mathews Artillery, post.*

Armory Battalion, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion, Local Defense.*

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* References, unless otherwise indicated, are to index following.

Armstrong's (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Armstrong's (Samuel C.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 8th Regiment.*
Arnett's (William W.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 20th Regiment.*
Arnold's (H. S.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Arsenal Battalion, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 5th Battalion, Local Defense.*
Ashby's (George E.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery E.*
Ashcraft's (Thomas E.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 32d and 53d Regiments;* also *2d Battalion.*
Ashford's (John) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 38th Regiment.*
Ashland Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Atkinson's (Edmund N.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 26th Regiment.*
Atkinson's (John W.) **Artillery.** See *Richard G. Pegram's Artillery, post.*
Atkinson's (John W.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th and 19th Battalions.*
Atwell's (Seager S.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 7th Regiment.*
August's (Thomas P.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 15th Regiment.*
Auld's (J. McQueen) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Avery's (Martin P.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 60th Regiment.*
Avery's (M. Henry) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Ayers' (David H.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Aylett's (William R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 53d Regiment.*
Ayres' (Thomas H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion, Local Defense.*
Badham's (William, jr.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery B.*
Bagg's (Egbert) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 117th Regiment.*
Baily's (James E.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Baird's (Andrew D.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 79th Regiment.*
Baker's (Joel B.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Baker's (John A.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Baker's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Baker's (Joseph J.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Baker's (J. Stannard) **Cavalry.** See *District of Columbia Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Baker's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 62d Regiment.*
Ball's (Edward) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 51st Regiment.*
Ball's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 122d Regiment.*
Ballenger's (Marcus R.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Bamberger's (William W.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 5th Regiment.*
Bane's (John P.) **Infantry.** See *Texas Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Barden's (William A.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Barker's (Thaddeus L.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 36th Regiment.*
Barker's (Thomas E.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Barlow's (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 121st Regiment.*
Barnes' (William) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Battalion, Battery A.*
Barney's (Albert M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 142d Regiment.*
Barney's (Valentine G.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Barnum's (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Barrett's (Gregory, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 4th Regiment.*
Barrier's (Rufus A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*
Barry's (John D.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 18th Regiment.*
Bartholomew's (Orion A.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 109th Regiment.*
Bartholomew's (Walter G.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Basinger's (William S.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 18th Battalion.*
Baskin's (William) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 18th Regiment.*

Bass' (Frederick S.) **Infantry.** See *Texas Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Bass' (W. R.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 66th Regiment.*
Bassett's (Jefferson) **Cavalry.** See *Cobb's Legion, post.*
Battle's (Henry T.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Baya's (William) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Bayley's (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 9th Regiment.*
Beale's (Richard L. T.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
Beall's (James F.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 21st Regiment.*
Beard's (John) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 57th Regiment.*
Beck's (James W.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 44th Regiment.*
Beck's (W. Butler) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Batteries C and I.*
Becker's (Adolph) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 46th Regiment.*
Beckley's (Henry M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 45th Battalion.*
Bedell's (William A.) **Infantry.** See *Texas Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Bedford Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Bedingfield's (John Y.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 60th Regiment.*
Beecher's (Henry B.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery L.*
Beisel's (Peter) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 98th Regiment.*
Bell's (Robert) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Bemis' (Melvin H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 145th Regiment.*
Benbow's (Henry L.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Bennett's (David T.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 7th Regiment.*
Bennett's (Matthew D.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Bennett's (R. Tyler) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 14th Regiment.*
Bentley's (William W.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 24th Regiment.*
Berkeley's (Edmund) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*
Berkeley's (Norborne) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*
Berkeley's (William N.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*
Berry's (Thomas J.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 60th Regiment.*
Betsill's (Rolet J.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Bevines' (John) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops.*
Binkley's (Otho H.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 110th Regiment.*
Bintliff's (James) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 38th Regiment.*
Bixby's (Oliver J.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery I.*
Bixby's (Phin P.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Black's (Mahlon) **Sharpshooters.** See *Minnesota Troops, 2d Company.*
Blackman's (Albert M.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 27th Regiment.*
Blacknall's (Charles C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 23d Regiment.*
Blair's (A. A.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 63d Regiment.*
Blessing's (William) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 23d Battalion.*
Blount's (Edmund C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 2d Regiment.*
Blount's (Joseph G.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Blythe's (A. S.) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Boernstein's (Augustus S.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 4th Regiment.*
Bolton's (George A.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 31st Regiment.*
Bolton's (William J.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 51st Regiment.*
Bonaud's (A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 28th Battalion.*
Booker's (Richard A.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment, Reserves.*

Born's (William J.) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Battalion, Battery D.*
Bost's (Jackson L.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 37th Regiment.*
Boston's (Reuben B.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
Bouvé's (Edward T.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Bowen's (Henry S.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 22d Regiment.*
Bowen's (Robert E.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment, Rifles.*
Bowerman's (Richard N.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 4th Regiment.*
Bowles' (Pinckney D.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Bowman's (Alpheus H.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Boyd's (Isaac H.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 19th Regiment.*
Boyd's (Waller M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Regiment.*
Boyd's (William H., jr.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Boykin's (Edward M.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Boyle's (Richard C.) **Sharpshooters.** See *New York Troops, 1st Battalion.*
Bradford's (William D.) **Artillery.** See *Confederate Guards, Artillery, post.*
Brady's (Hugh J.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 206th Regiment.*
Brady's **Sharpshooters.** See *Michigan Troops.*
Brainerd's (Wesley) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Branch **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
Brander's (Thomas A.) **Artillery.** See *Letcher Artillery, post.*
Brazie's (William R.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 5th Regiment.*
Breck's (George) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery L.*
Brevard's (Theodore W.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Brewster's (Wilson L.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Brewton's (Caleb W.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Bridgford's (D. B.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion.*
Briggs' (Alvah W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 106th Regiment.*
Brincklé's (John R.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery E.*
Briscoe's (James C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 199th Regiment.*
Brittain's (Marcus L.) **Infantry.** See *Cherokee Home Guards, post.*
Brooke **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Brooker's (Albert F.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Brooks **Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops.*
Brown's (Francis T.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Brown's (Hamilton A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Brown's (Harvey W.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
Brown's (Jack) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 59th Regiment.*
Brown's (James F.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Brown's (James G.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 64th Regiment.*
Brown's (Jeremiah Z.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 148th Regiment.*
Brown's (John E.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 42d Regiment.*
Brown's (Joseph B.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Union Troops, Volunteers, 2d Regiment.*
Brown's (Joseph N.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Brown's (Lewis G.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 117th Regiment.*
Brown's (Richard H.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Brown's (T. Frederick) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Batteries A and B.*
Brown's (T. Jefferson) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 29th Regiment.*
Browne's (Charles F.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 37th Regiment.*
Brumm's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 50th Regiment.*
Brunck's (Frank C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 100th Regiment.*
Bryan's (Samuel) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 84th Regiment.*
Bryan's (Thomas A.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*

Bryant's (Seth E.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 32d Regiment.*
Buchanan's (Felix G.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 1st Regiment, P. A.*
Buck's (Samuel D.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 13th Regiment.*
Buckles' (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Bulger's (Michael J.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 47th Regiment.*
Bull's (James M.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Bull's (William S.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 12th Battery.*
Bumpus' (Lorenzo D.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 57th Regiment.*
Bumstead's (Horace) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 43d Regiment.*
Burke's (Denis F.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 88th Regiment.*
Burke's (Ricard O'S.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Burke's (Ross E.) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Burks' (Hugh N.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 58th Regiment.*
Burns' (Michael W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 73d Regiment.*
Burt's (William G.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 22d Regiment.*
Butler's (Benjamin C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 93d Regiment.*
Butt's (Edgar M.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Calahan's (Charles C.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Calef's (John H.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment, Battery A.*
Callaway's (Morgan) **Artillery.** See *Pulaski Artillery, post.*
Cameron's (Hugh D.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Camp's (Frederick E.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 29th Regiment, Colored.*
Campbell's (Edward) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 85th Regiment.*
Campbell's (James B.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Campbell's (John F.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery F.*
Cannon's (Madison M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 40th Regiment.*
Capers' (Henry D.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 12th Battalion.*
Capron's Cavalry. (Official designation not of record.) See *Lieutenant Capron.*
Carlton's (Henry H.) **Artillery.** See *Troup Artillery, post.*
Carmical's (George H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Carmichael's (William W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 52d Regiment.*
Caroline Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Carpenter's (John C.) **Artillery.** See *Alleghany Artillery, ante.*
Carrington's (Henry A.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 18th Regiment.*
Carrington's (James McD.) **Artillery.** See *Charlottesville Artillery, post.*
Carroll's (Charles H.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery E.*
Carruth's (Sumner) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 35th Regiment.*
Carter's (Joseph F.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Carter's (R. Welby) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Carter's (William P.) **Artillery.** See *King William Artillery, post.*
Cartwright's (Charles E.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 99th Regiment.*
Cary's (N. R.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Battalion.*
Caskie's (Robert A.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th Regiment.*
Catlett's (W. F.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion, Reserves.*
Caughman's (Augustus H.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Caw's (David J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 77th Regiment.*
Cayce's (George M.) **Artillery.** See *Purcell Artillery, post.*
Chaffin's (Thomas, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Chamberlain's (Samuel E.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Chamberlayne's (John H.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Chapman's (George B.) **Artillery.** See *Monroe Artillery, post.*
Charlottesville Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Chase's (Philip S.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery F.*

Cheek's (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Cheeseman's (Roland C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 45th Regiment.*
Cherokee Home Guards. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
Chesterfield Artillery. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Chew's (Henry F.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Chew's (Robert S.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*
Chew's (Walter S.) **Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 4th Battery.*
Choate's (Francis C.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment, Battery B.*
Chrisman's (George) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Reserves.*
Christian's (William S.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 55th Regiment.*
Church's (Nathan) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 26th Regiment.*
Cilley's (Jonathan P.) **Cavalry.** See *Maine Troops, 1st Regiment.*
City Battalion, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Battalion.*
City Battalion, Infantry [Wilmington]. See *Railroad Guards, post.*
Claesgens' (Peter) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 146th Regiment.*
Clapp's (Alonzo H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 122d Regiment.*
Clapp's (Dexter E.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 38th Regiment.*
Clark's (A. Judson) **Artillery.** See *New Jersey Troops, 2d Battery.*
Clark's (Atherton W.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Clark's (Gideon) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 119th Regiment.*
Clark's (Stephen R.) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Clark's (William J.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 140th Regiment.*
Clarke's (J. Lyle) **Sharpshooters.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 30th Battalion.*
Clarke's (Thomas E.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 8th and 9th* Regiments.*
Clarke's (Will W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 85th Regiment.*
Clausen's (Charles H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 61st Regiment.*
Clement's (William B.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th Regiment.*
Clinton's (James B.) **Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Battery.*
Cloud's (Abel J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment.*
Clough's (Joseph M.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Clutter's (Valentine J.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Clyburn's (T. Frank) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Coan's (William B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Cobb's (John P.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Cobb's Legion. See *Georgia Troops.*
Cobb's (Norvell) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 44th Regiment.*
Cochran's (Andrew J.) **Artillery.** See *Confederate Guards, Artillery, post.*
Cochran's (James) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 14th Regiment.*
Cochran's (Jesse C.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Cochran's (Thomas A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 103d Regiment.*
Coey's (James) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 147th Regiment.*
Coker's (Joseph W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion;* also, *32d Regiment.*
Colburn's (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 59th Regiment.*
Cole's (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 2d Regiment.*
Coleman's (Henry E.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 12th Regiment.*
Coleman's (Wiley G.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Neblett Heavy Artillery, post.*
Coles' (Hiram E.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 40th Regiment.*
Collins' (John M.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 58th Regiment.*
Collis' (Charles H. T.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 114th Regiment.*
Commager's (Henry S.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 67th Regiment.*

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* Temporarily commanding.

Confederate Guards, Artillery. See *Mississippi Troops.*
Connor's (John) Infantry. See *Massachusetts Troops, 28th Regiment.*
Cook's (George B.) Heavy Artillery. See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Coonan's (John) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 182d Regiment.*
Cooper's (John B.) Infantry. See *New Hampshire Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Cooper's (John D.) Infantry. See *New Hampshire Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Cooper's (John R.) Heavy Artillery. See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Cooper's (Raleigh L.) Artillery. See *Stafford Artillery, post.*
Cooper's (William P.) Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 31st Regiment.*
Coppens' (Alfred) Infantry. See *Louisiana Troops.*
Corning's (Joseph W.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 111th Regiment.*
Corns' (James M.) Cavalry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 8th Regiment.*
Corrie's (William A.) Cavalry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Coughlin's (John) Infantry. See *New Hampshire Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Coulter's (Richard) Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Counselman's (Jacob H.) Cavalry. See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Courtney Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Cowan's (Robert V.) Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 33d Regiment.*
Cowand's (David G.) Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 32d Regiment.*
Coward's (A.) Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Cox's (Robert C.) Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 207th Regiment.*
Crafts' (Welcome A.) Infantry. See *New Hampshire Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Crandall's (Walter) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 85th Regiment.*
Crawford's (James S. A.) Cavalry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*
Crawford's (John S.) Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 114th Regiment.*
Crawley's (William J.) Infantry. See *Holcombe Legion, post.*
Creney's (James) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 95th Regiment.*
Crenshaw's (William G.) Artillery. See *Thomas Ellett's Artillery, post.*
Crittenden's (Charles T.) Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 13th Regiment.*
Cronkite's (James W.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 121st Regiment.*
Cullen's (Edgar M.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 96th Regiment.*
Cumming's (James D.) Artillery. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion, Battery C.*
Cummings' (Emory) Cavalry. See *New York Troops, 23d Battalion.*
Cunningham's (Arthur S.) Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 40th Regiment.*
Cunningham's (James A.) Infantry. See *Massachusetts Troops, 32d Regiment.*
Cunningham's (John S.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 118th Regiment.*
Curlin's (Martin W.) Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Battalion, Local Defense.*
Dafoe's (James) Infantry. See *Michigan Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Daggett's (Rufus) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 117th Regiment.*
Damon's (George B.) Infantry. See *Vermont Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Dana's (Edmund L.) Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 143d Regiment.*
Dance's (Willis J.) Artillery. See *Powhatan Artillery, post.*
Dandy's (George B.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 100th Regiment.*
Danforth's (John B.) Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, State Reserves.*
Daniels' (Percy) Infantry. See *Rhode Island Troops, 4th and 7th Regiments.*
Danville Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*

Darling's (Moses O.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery D.*

Darnall's (Morgan A.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 10th Regiment.*

Darracott's (Charles R.) **Artillery.** See *N. A. Sturdivant's Artillery, post.*

Dauchy's (George K.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 12th Battery.*

Davant's (Philip E.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 38th Regiment.*

Davey's (George W.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 11th Battery.*

Davidson's (George S.) **Artillery.** See *John H. Chamberlayne's Artillery, ante.*

Davidson's (William Lee) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*

Davies' (John N.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 7th Regiment.*

Davis' (Alexander M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 45th Regiment.*

Davis' (Ebenezer W.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 4th Regiment.*

Davis' (James T.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 49th Regiment.*

Davis' (J. Lucius) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th Regiment.*

Davis' (Lemuel T.) **Artillery.** See *James City Artillery, post.*

Davis' (William P.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 90th Regiment.*

Davis' (Zimmerman) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 5th Regiment.*

Davison's (Christopher C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 188th Regiment.*

De Bordenave's (Fulgence) **Infantry.** See *Alfred Coppens' Infantry, ante.*

Degener's (George) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 52d Regiment.*

De Lacy's (William) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 164th Regiment.*

Dement's (William F.) **Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 1st Battery.*

De Meulen's (Emelius) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery K.*

Dempcy's (Marshall L.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 23d Regiment.*

Dennison's (William N.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 2d Regiment, Battery A.*

Departmental Battalion, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Local Defense.*

Dern's (George F.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*

Derrick's (Clarence) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 23d Battalion.*

Devane's (William S.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 61st Regiment.*

De Witt's (Sewell W.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 4th Regiment.*

Dey's (Charles W.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*

Dibbell's (Flavius) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*

Dickenson's (Crispin) **Artillery.** See *Ringgold Artillery, post.*

Dickerson's (James W.) **Artillery.** See *Joseph G. Blount's Artillery, ante.*

Dickey's (James) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 51st Regiment.*

Dickinson's (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *Ohio Troops, 6th Regiment.*

Dickson's (Henry) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Battalion, Battery E.*

Diven's (Charles W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 200th Regiment.*

Dixon's (Columbus H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 49th Regiment.*

Doane's (Charles R.) **Artillery.** See *New Jersey Troops, 4th Battery.*

Doheny's (Michael) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 155th Regiment.*

Dominy's (Levi S.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 118th Regiment.*

Donald's (George L.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 13th Regiment.*

Donald's (William K.) **Artillery.** See *Rockbridge Artillery No. 2, post.*

Donaldsonville Artillery. See *Louisiana Troops.*

Donnald's (David L.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment, Rifles.*

Donnelly's (Stewart J.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery K.*

Doolittle's (Isaac) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 188th Regiment.*
Dorsey's (Stephen W.) **Artillery.** See *Ohio Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
Doubleday's (Ulysses) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 45th Regiment.*
Doughty's (James E.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Union Troops, Volunteers, 2d Regiment.*
Drewry's (John W.) **Artillery.** See *Southside Artillery, post.*
Du Bose's (Dudley M.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Dudley's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Duguid's (Edward M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
Duke's (Richard T. W.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion, Reserves.*
Dulany's (Richard H.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*
Duncan's (Alender P.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Duncan's (James H.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Dungan's (Robert H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 48th Regiment.*
Dunn's (Ambrose C.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 37th Battalion.*
Dunn's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 109th Regiment.*
Duvall's (Robert E.) **Cavalry.** See *Purnell Legion, Cavalry, post.*
Dyer's (George B.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Dygert's (Charles H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 152d Regiment.*
Earle's (David) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Eaton's (John B.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 27th Battery.*
Eckert's (George C.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Eckman's (Charles W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 93d Regiment.*
Edelstein's (John) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 40th Regiment.*
Edgar's (George M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 26th Battalion.*
Edgell's (Frederick M.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery M;* also *1st Light Battery.*
Edgerton's (William G.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 11th Regiment.*
Edmands' (Thomas F.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 24th Regiment.*
Edwards' (Albert M.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 24th Regiment.*
Egbert's (George T.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 183d Regiment.*
Einsiedel's (Detleo von) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 41st Regiment.*
Eley's (Solomon B.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment.*
Ellett's (Thomas) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Elliott's (Wyatt M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Battalion.*
Ellis' (Andrew J.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery A.*
Ely's (Ralph) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Emerson's (Charles W.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
Emrich's (John P.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Ennis' (Philip J.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 5th Battalion, Local Defense.*
Epes' (Branch J.) **Artillery.** See *Johnston Artillery, post.*
Erwin's (Lawson P.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, Senior Reserves.*
Etheredge's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 41st Regiment.*
Evans' (Andrew W.) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Evans' (David M.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Evans' (Oliver F.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Evans' (Thomas J.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, State Reserves.*
Everett's (William S.) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Battalion, Battery E.*
Ewing's (John) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 155th Regiment.*

Ezzell's (A. W.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment, Battery A.*
Faehtz's (Ernest F. M.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 8th Regiment.*
Fairchild's (Harrison S.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 89th Regiment.*
Faison's (Paul F.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*
Falls' (Richard J.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Faribault's (George H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 47th Regiment.*
Farinholt's (Benjamin L.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Reserves.*
Farnham's (Augustus B.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Farwell's (James C.) **Infantry.** See *Minnesota Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Fauquier Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Ferebee's (Dennis D.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Ferguson's (Milton J.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment.*
Ferguson's (Thomas B.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Ferris' (Samuel P.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 8th Regiment.*
Fickling's (William W.) **Artillery.** See *Brooks Artillery, ante.*
Fife's (William E.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 36th Regiment.*
Fish's (Henry H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 94th Regiment.*
Fisher's (Isaac B.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Fisk's (George A.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 36th Regiment.*
Fisk's (Henry C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 65th Regiment.*
Fisk's (John) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment (Mounted Rifles).*
Fitch's (Amaya L.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery L.*
Fite's (John A.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Fitz Gerald's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Flanner's (Henry G.) **Artillery.** See *Branch Artillery, ante.*
Fleming's (James) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 28th Regiment.*
Fletcher's (Stephen C.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Flint's (Edward A.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Flowerree's (Charles C.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*
Floyd's (Horace W.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 3d and 4th Regiments.*
Fluvanna Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Follett's (Frederick M.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery D.*
Fontaine's (Clement R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 57th Regiment.*
Fordyce's (John) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Forsberg's (Augustus) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 51st Regiment.*
Forsyth's (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Foster's (J. C.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Frankle's (Jones) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Frederick's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 209th Regiment.*
Fredericksburg Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Free's (Peter W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 145th Regiment.*
French's (David A.) **Artillery.** See *McComas Artillery, post.*
French's (William H., jr.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 57th Regiment.*
Fritz's (Peter, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 99th Regiment.*
Fry's (C. W.) **Artillery.** See *Orange Artillery, post.*
Fuller's (Nehemiah P.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment, Battery B.*
Funsten's (Oliver R.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 11th Regiment.*
Gaillard's (Peter C.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 27th Regiment.*

Gallager's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 106th Regiment.*
Gallaway's (Thomas S., jr.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 22d Regiment.*
Gantt's (F. Hay) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Gantt's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Regiment.*
Garber's (Asher W.) **Artillery.** See *Staunton Artillery, post.*
Garden's (Hugh R.) **Artillery.** See *Palmetto Artillery No. 2, post.*
Garrard's (Jeptha) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
Garvin's (Edwin L.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery I.*
Gates' (Theodore B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 80th Regiment.*
Gatling's (Riddick, jr.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 33d Regiment.*
Geddis' (John B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 126th Regiment.*
Gee's (Bolivar H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 59th Regiment.*
George's (Newton J.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 1st Regiment, P. A.*
Getchell's (Edward L.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 31st Regiment.*
Gibbs' (Theodore K.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
Gibson's (John Catlett) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 49th Regiment.*
Gilbert's (Thomas S.) **Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 3d Battery.*
Giles Artillery. See *McComas Artillery, post.*
Giles' (James) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 29th Regiment.*
Gill's (Henry B.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Gilmer's (John A., jr.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 27th Regiment.*
Gilmor's (Harry W.) **Cavalry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion.*
Gilmore's (Charles D.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Gist's (Moses B.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Givin's (James) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 127th Regiment.*
Gleason's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 63d Regiment.*
Glenn's (James) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 149th Regiment.*
Glenn's (Luther J.) **Infantry.** See *Cobb's Legion, ante.*
Glenny's (William) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 64th Regiment.*
Godwin's (D. E.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Battalion, Reserves.*
Goff's (Nathan, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 37th Regiment.*
Goggans' (Elijah J.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Goll's (Baltzer) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 1st and 14th Regiments.*
Goochland Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Goodgame's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Goodman's (Gustavus A.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 13th Regiment.*
Goss' (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Palmetto Sharpshooters, post.*
Gosse's (Albert) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 66th Regiment.*
Goupil's (Theodore) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery I.*
Gowan's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Grace's (Benjamin F.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 26th Regiment.*
Graham's (Archibald) **Artillery.** See *Rockbridge Artillery, post.*
Graham's (Edward) **Artillery.** See *Petersburg Artillery, post.*
Graham's (Elisha D.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 27th Regiment.*
Graham's (James D.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Graham's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*
Graham's (Joseph) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery C.*

Graham's (Robert F.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Graham's (William W.) **Infantry.*** See *New York Troops, 104th Regiment.*
Grandy's (Charles R.) **Artillery.** See *Norfolk Blues, Artillery, post.*
Granger's (G. Frederick) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Grant's (Claudius B.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Grantsynn's (William S.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 140th Regiment.*
Greeley's (Edwin S.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Green's (Charles A.) **Artillery.** See *Louisiana Guard, Artillery, post.*
Green's (Charles J.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 47th Regiment.*
Green's (John) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 37th Regiment.*
Green's (William E.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 56th Regiment.*
Greene's (Rinaldo M.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Greer's (William A.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 10th Battalion.*
Gregg's (Thomas E.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *South Carolina Troops, 18th Battalion, Battery C.*
Gregg's (William M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 179th Regiment.*
Grier's (W. L.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 11th Regiment.*
Griffin's (Charles B.) **Artillery.** See *Salem Artillery, post.*
Griffin's (Joel R.) **Cavalry.** See *Georgia Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Griffin's (William H.) **Artillery.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Battery.*
Griggs' (George K.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 38th Regiment.*
Grill's (Frederick) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Grindlay's (James) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 146th Regiment.*
Groner's (Virginius D.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 61st Regiment.*
Guerrant's (John) **Artillery.** See *Goochland Artillery, ante.*
Guess' (Edward H.) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Battalion, Battery B.*
Hagan's (Charles) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 170th Regiment.*
Hagood's (James R.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Volunteers.*
Hahr's (F. J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
Haines' (Benjamin F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 88th Regiment.*
Hall's (Josephus M.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Hall's (Matthew R.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Hall's (Robert M.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
Hall's Sharpshooters. See *Michigan Troops.*
Hallett's (Warren) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery I.*
Halsey's (E. Lindsley) **Artillery.** See *Washington (S. C.) Artillery, post.*
Hamilton's (Isaac T.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 110th Regiment.*
Hamilton's (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *Phillips Legion, post.*
Hampden Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Hampton Legion. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Hancock's (John M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Battalion.*
Hancock's (Richard D.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Hankins' (James D.) **Artillery.** See *Surry Artillery, post.*
Hanlon's (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Hannum's (James) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 39th Regiment.*
Hardeman's (Isaac) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Hardin's (Mark B.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 18th Battalion.*
Hardwick's (William M.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Hardwicke's (William W.) **Artillery.** See *Lee Artillery, post.*

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*Temporarily commanding.

Harllee's (A. T.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Harman's (Asher W.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 12th Regiment.*
Harn's (William A.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Battery.*
Harper's (John) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 95th Regiment.*
Harper's (Wilson) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Regiment.*
Harriman's (Samuel) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 37th Regiment.*
Harriman's (Walter) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Harris' (John L.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 24th Regiment.*
Harris' (Sampson W.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Harrison's (Archibald T.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*
Harrison's (Julien) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 6th Regiment.*
Harrison's (Randolph) (Colonel) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 46th Regiment.*
Harrison's (Randolph) (Lieutenant-Colonel) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 34th Regiment.*
Hart's (Alexander) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Hart's (James F.) **Artillery.** See *Washington (S. C.) Artillery, post.*
Hart's (James H.) **Cavalry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Hart's (Patrick) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 15th Battery.*
Hart's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 36th Regiment.*
Hartsfield's (W. F.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 53d Regiment.*
Harwood's (Franklin) **Engineers.** See *Union Troops, Regulars.*
Haskell's (Llewellyn F.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 41st Regiment.*
Haynes' (Charles L.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 27th Regiment.*
Hays' (Archer H.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Hayt's (William W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 189th Regiment.*
Haywood's (Edward G.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*
Hazelton's (James B.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery D.*
Head's (George H. L.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Hedrick's (William O.) **Cavalry.** See *Indiana Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Heggart's (Robert) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 164th Regiment.*
Heintzelman's (Mish T.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 208th Regiment.*
Hempstead's (Alexander S.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 27th Regiment.*
Henderson's (Charles) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Henry's (P. M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 5th Battalion, Reserves.*
Henry's (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 140th Regiment.*
Hensley's (James O.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th Battalion.*
Herbert's (Arthur) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*
Herbert's (James R.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Hero's (Andrew, jr.) **Artillery.** See *Washington (La.) Artillery, post, 3d Battery.*
Herring's (Charles P.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 118th Regiment.*
Hickman's (Bayuton J.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 49th Regiment.*
Hicks' (Julius C.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Hill's (Albert A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 48th Regiment.*
Hill's (C. F.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 10th Battalion.*
Hill's (George H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 55th Regiment.*
Hill's (Jonathan A.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Hill's (Joseph C.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 6th Regiment.*
Hill's (W. T.) **Infantry.** See *Texas Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Hinton's (James W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 68th Regiment.*
Hinton's (William E.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th Regiment;* also *44th Battalion, Infantry.*

Hitchcock's (George H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 132d Regiment.*
Hobbs' (Isaac W.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Hobson's (E. Lafayette) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Hobson's (Owen H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Hobson's (William) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Hodges' (Wesley C.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Hoffman's (John S.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 31st Regiment.*
Hoge's (Edward F.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Hogg's (George) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Holcombe Legion. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Holcombe's (W. H.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Rifles.*
Holliday's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Holmes' (George) **Infantry.** See *George H. Terrett's Marines, post.*
Holmes' (Joseph W.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Holt's (Bolling H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 35th Regiment.*
Holt's (Erastus D.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 49th Regiment.*
Holt's (Robert J.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Holt's (Willis C.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Hooper's (Thomas W.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Hopkins' (Warren M.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Regiment.*
Hopper's (George F.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Horrell's (Napoleon J.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Howard's (Orville L.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
Howard's (William A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Howell's (Charles W.) **Engineers.** See *Franklin Harwood's Engineers, ante.*
Howell's (John H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery M.*
Hubbard's (James) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Hudgens' (T. A.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Hudson's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 35th Regiment.*
Hudson's (Joshua H.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 26th Regiment.*
Huger Artillery. See *Joseph D. Moore's Artillery, post.*
Hughes' (Chester K.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 142d Regiment.*
Huguley's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 59th Regiment.*
Hunt's (Isaac F.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Hunt's (Lewis C.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 67th Regiment.*
Hurt's (William B.) **Artillery.** See *Alabama Troops.*
Husk's (Lewis W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 111th Regiment.*
Hutchins' (Nathan L., jr.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Georgia Troops, 3d Battalion.*
Hutchinson's (Asa T.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Hutchinson's (William) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 24th Regiment.*
Hutt's (Jacob L.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Huysman's (Theodore) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Batteries C and I.*
Hyde's (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 125th Regiment.*
Hyman's (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 13th Regiment.*
Ilsley's (Silas A.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 158th Regiment.*
Imboden's (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 18th Regiment.*
Irvin's (John) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 149th Regiment.*
Irvine's (William) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Irwin Artillery. See *Sumter Artillery, post, Battery C.*
Jack's (John T.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 56th Regiment.*
Jackson's (Thomas E.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Jackson's (William L.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 19th Regiment.*
Jackson's (W. R.) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Battalion, Battery E.*

James City Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
James' (Martin S.) Heavy Artillery. See *Rhode Island Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery C.*
Jameson's (S. A.) Infantry. See *Georgia Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Jameson's (Thorndike C.) Heavy Artillery. See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment, Colored.*
Janeway's (Hugh H.) Cavalry. See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Janeway's (Jacob J.) Infantry. See *New Jersey Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Jardine's (George) Sharpshooters. See *Michigan Troops.*
Jarves' (Horatio D.) Infantry. See *Massachusetts Troops, 56th Regiment.*
Jayne's (Joseph M.) Infantry. See *Mississippi Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Jeff. Davis Artillery. See *Alabama Troops.*
Jeff. Davis Legion, Cavalry. See *Mississippi Troops.*
Jenney's (Edwin S.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 185th Regiment.*
Jewett's (Erastus W.) Infantry. See *Vermont Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Johannes' (John G.) Infantry. See *Maryland Troops, Union, 8th Regiment.*
Johns' (James C.) Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 22d Regiment.*
Johnson's (Enoch E.) Infantry. See *Vermont Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Johnson's (George W.) Heavy Artillery. See *Georgia Troops, 12th Battalion.*
Johnson's (James T.) Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 35th Regiment.*
Johnson's (John A.) Infantry. See *Georgia Troops, 28th Regiment.*
Johnston Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Johnston's (Charles F.) Artillery. See *Albemarle Artillery, ante.*
Johnston's (James W.) Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 60th Regiment.*
Johnston's (Philip Preston) Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Johnston's (William A.) Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 14th Regiment.*
Jolly's (John J.) Infantry. See *Alabama Troops, 43d Regiment.*
Jones' (Andrew J.) Heavy Artillery. See *Pamunkey Heavy Artillery, post.*
Jones' (Beuhring H.) Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 60th Regiment.*
Jones' (Edward J.) Artillery. See *Massachusetts Troops, 11th Battery.*
Jones' (Enoch) Artillery. See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery C.*
Jones' (George W.) Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 150th Regiment.*
Jones' (Hamilton C., jr.) Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 57th Regiment.*
Jones' (John A.) Infantry. See *Alabama Troops, 44th Regiment.*
Jones' (Joseph) Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 14th Regiment.*
Jones' (Lorraine F.) Artillery. See *Richmond Howitzers, post, 2d Company.*
Jones' (S. B.) Cavalry. See *Georgia Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Jones' (Waters B.) Infantry. See *Georgia Troops, 60th Regiment.*
Joost's (John H.) Infantry. See *Union Troops, Colored, 38th Regiment.*
Jordan's (John T.) Infantry. See *Georgia Troops, 49th Regiment.*
Joyce's (R. B.) Infantry. See *Louisiana Troops, 1st Regiment, Volunteers.*
Karples' (Henry M.) Infantry. See *New York Troops, 52d Regiment.*
Kasey's (John G.) Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 58th Regiment.*
Kaufman's (Tobias B.) Infantry. See *Pennsylvania Troops, 209th Regiment.*
Kelliher's (John) Infantry. See *Massachusetts Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Kellogg's (Horace) Infantry. See *Ohio Troops, 123d Regiment.*
Kellogg's (John A.) Infantry. See *Wisconsin Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Kelly's (James I.) Artillery. See *Chesterfield Artillery, ante.*
Kenan's (Thomas S.) Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 43d Regiment.*
Kennedy's (Richard) Heavy Artillery. See *New York Troops, 4th Regiment, Battery L.*

Kennedy's (Ronald A.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Kent's (Daniel H.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Kephart's (Theophilus) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 104th Regiment.*
Kerr's (Robert M.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Kerr's (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Kerwin's (Michael) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Kesler's (Joseph K.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*
Ketchum's (William A.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Kevill's (Thomas) **Artillery.** See *United Artillery, post.*
Kibbe's (George C.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Kidd's (D. A.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Kiddoo's (Joseph B.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 22d Regiment.*
Kilby's (Leroy R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 16th Regiment.*
King's (Barrington S.) **Cavalry.** See *Cobb's Legion, ante.*
King's (Dixon R.) **Infantry.** See *West Virginia Troops, 11th Regiment.*
King's (J. Horace) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 9th Regiment.*
King William Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Kirkpatrick's (Thomas J.) **Artillery.** See *Amherst Artillery, ante.*
Kiser's (John F.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Kleckner's (Charles) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 184th Regiment.*
Kleinz's (Christopher) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Knight's (Charles W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 31st Regiment.*
Knowles' (Oliver B.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Korte's (Frederick) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery M.*
Kraszynski's (Morris) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Kreutzer's (William) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 98th Regiment.*
Laffoon's (Jugurtha A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Lunenburg Heavy Artillery, post.*
La Fuira's (Joseph) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Lamkin's (James N.) **Artillery.** See *Nelson Artillery, post.*
Landry's (R. Prosper) **Artillery.** See *Donaldsonville Artillery, ante.*
Lane's (John R.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*
Lane's (Nathaniel P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 66th Regiment.*
Lane's (William K.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 16th Battalion.*
Lang's (David) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Lang's (James) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 59th Regiment.*
Langdon's (Loomis L.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Battery M.*
Langhorne's (John B.) **Artillery.** See *Otey Artillery, post.*
Langhorne's (Maurice S.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 11th Regiment.*
Langley's (Frank H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Lansing's (Jacob H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 86th Regiment.*
La Point's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Larkin's (James E.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Lawrence's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Lawrence's (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 88th Regiment.*
Lea's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
Lee Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Lee's (Edgar J.) **Artillery.** See *Montgomery True Blues, Artillery, post.*
Lee's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 99th Regiment.*
Lee's (John D.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Lee's (Richard H.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Battery.*
Lee's (Thomas G.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*

Lesesne's (Henry H.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Lester's (Richard P.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Letcher Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Lewellen's (Joel W.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Lewellen's (John R.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 12th Regiment.*
Lewie's (Frederick S.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Lewis' (George W.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Lewis' (Ivey F.) **Cavalry.** See *Jeff. Davis Legion, ante.*
Lewis' (John W.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Leyden's (Austin) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Battalion.*
Lightfoot's (James N.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Lilley's (John D.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 52d Regiment.*
Lincoln's (Rufus P.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 37th Regiment.*
Lincoln's (Sumner H.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Lindsey's (Henry C.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 47th Regiment.*
Linsley's (Nelson E.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Lippitt's (James W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 51st Regiment.*
Littell's (John S.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 76th Regiment.*
Little's (Francis H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Livingston's (Charles E.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 76th Regiment.*
Livingston's (J. F.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Lockley's (George) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Lockwood's (Abram L.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 120th Regiment.*
Lofton's (George A.) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Battalion, Battery A.*
Lofton's (John T.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Logan's (Robert H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 45th Regiment.*
Logan's (Thomas H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 28th Regiment.*
Logan's (Thomas M.) **Cavalry.** See *Hampton Legion, ante.*
Long's (Franklin B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 54th Regiment.*
Lord's (Lafayette W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 45th Regiment.*
Lord's (Newton B.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Losee's (Alfred B.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 19th Battery.*
Louisiana Guard, Artillery. See *Louisiana Troops.*
Love's (James R., jr.) **Infantry.** See *W. H. Thomas' Legion, post.*
Love's (Matthew N.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 25th Regiment.*
Love's (Thaddeus D.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 24th Regiment.*
Lowe's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 31st Regiment.*
Lowrance's (William L. J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 34th Regiment.*
Lowry's (William B.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Lowry's (William M.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Lowther's (Alexander A.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Luce's (Constant) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Ludgate's (William) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 59th Regiment.*
Lull's (Frederick A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 2d Regiment, 3d Battalion.*
Lunenburg Heavy Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Lurty's (Warren S.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
McAfee's (Lee M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 49th Regiment.*
McAleer's (Joseph L.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
McAlister's (Alexander C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 46th Regiment.*

McAnerney's (John, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment, Local Defense.*
McArthur's (William M.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 8th Regiment.*
McCabe's (George F.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d* and 13th Regiments.*
McCall's (William H. H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 200th Regiment.*
McCalmont's (Alfred B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 208th Regiment.*
McChesney's (Joseph M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
McClanahan's (J. H.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
McClellan's (Samuel A.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery G.*
McClelland's (William) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
McClennan's (Matthew R.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 138th Regiment.*
McClintock's (John) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 14th Regiment.*
McClung's (Francis B.) **Infantry.** See *Confederate Troops, Regulars, 1st Battalion.*
McClure's (William M.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment.*
McComas Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
McComb's (William) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 14th Regiment.*
McCormick's (James J.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 76th Regiment.*
McCoy's (Thomas F.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 107th Regiment.*
McCreary's (Charles W.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, P. A.*
McCullohs' (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 35th Regiment.*
McCune's (Samuel) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Reserves.*
McCutchen's (J. S. Kerr) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 31st Regiment.*
McDonald's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 22d Regiment.*
McDonald's (Joseph M.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 47th Regiment.*
McEntee's (John) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 80th Regiment.*
McGill's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 18th Regiment.*
McGlashan's (Peter) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 50th Regiment.*
McGregor's (William M.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
McGruder's (William M.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 24th Regiment.*
McGuire's (Michael) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 182d Regiment.*
McIlhenny's (James L.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 12th Regiment.*
McInnis' (Archibald D.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 4th Regiment.*
McIntosh's (Lucas) **Artillery.** See *Valentine J. Clutter's Artillery, ante.*
McIntyre's (Duncan) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 8th Regiment.*
McIntyre's (Martin V.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 7th Battery.*
McIvor's (James P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 170th Regiment.*
McKinley's (William P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 184th Regiment.*
McKinlock's (John) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 147th Regiment.*
McKinnie's (Thomas W.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 126th Regiment.*
McKnight's (James) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery M.*
McLain's (Alexander S.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Battery.*
McMahon's (Andrew R.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 15th Battery.*
McMaster's (Fitz William) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 17th Regiment.*
McMillan's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*
McNary's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 158th Regiment.*
McNeely's (James W.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 10th Regiment.*
McNeill's (James H.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 5th Regiment.*
Macon Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*
Macon's (Miles C.) **Artillery.** See *Richmond Fayette Artillery, post.*

* Temporarily commanding.

McPherson's (John A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 6th Regiment.*
Madill's (Henry J.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 141st Regiment.*
Madison Artillery. See *Louisiana Troops.*
Madison Light Artillery. See *Mississippi Troops.*
Magnitzky's (Gustave) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Mahon's (James D.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Majtheny's (Theodore) **Cavalry.** See *Indiana Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Maltbie's (Richard) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Manlove's (Thomas B.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Manly's (Basil C.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery A.*
Mann's (Daniel P.) **Cavalry.** See *Oneida Cavalry, post.*
Manning's (Edward C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Union, 1st Regiment.*
Manning's (Van H.) **Infantry.** See *Arkansas Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Manning's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 5th, 6th, and 7th Regiments.*
March's (Edwin J.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Marsh's (Thomas B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 51st Regiment.*
Marshall's (William C.) **Artillery.** See *Fauquier Artillery, ante.*
Martin's (John M.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Martin's (Leonard) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery F.*
Martin's (S. Taylor) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Martin's (William J.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 11th Regiment.*
Martz's (Dorilas H. Lee) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 10th Regiment.*
Mason's (James A.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Massie's (John L.) **Artillery.** See *Fluvanna Artillery, ante.*
Mathews Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Mathews' (James W.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Mathews' (Joseph A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 205th Regiment.*
Matthewson's (Angell) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
Maury's (Richard L.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 24th Regiment.*
Mayer's (Edelmiro) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 45th Regiment.*
Mayo's (Ezekiel R.) **Artillery.** See *Maine Troops, 3d Battery.*
Mayo's (Joseph, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Mayo's (Robert M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 47th Regiment.*
Megraw's (David W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 116th Regiment.*
Mercer's (Lawrence) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 81st Regiment.*
Merrill's (Simeon H.) **Infantry.** See *Maine Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Metcalf's (Henry H.) **Artillery.*** See *New Jersey Troops, 5th Battery.*
Michalowski's (Theophilus B. von) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 1st Regiment, Batteries H and I.*
Miles' (Thomas) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Military Institute Cadets, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Millard's (David T.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Battalion, Junior Reserves.*
Milledge's (John, jr.) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops.*
Miller's (George McD.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Rifles.*
Miller's (James) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 105th Regiment.*
Miller's (John O.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
Miller's (Lovick P.) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Miller's (Theodore) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 139th Regiment.*

* Temporarily commanding.

Miller's (William C.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
Milliken's (Charles A.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 43d Regiment.*
Milliken's (Robert H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 69th Regiment.*
Milton's (Richard S.) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 9th Battery.*
Minetree's (Joseph P.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 41st Regiment.*
Mink's (Charles E.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery H.*
Mintzer's (William M.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 53d Regiment.*
Mitchell's (John) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery B.*
Mitchell's (Sidney W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 47th Regiment.*
Mobley's (Edward M.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 7th Regiment.*
Moffett's (William D.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 49th Regiment.*
Monroe Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Montague's (Edgar B.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 32d Regiment.*
Montgomery's (Charles S.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 5th Regiment (Veteran).*
Montgomery True Blues, Artillery. See *Alabama Troops.*
Moody's (George V.) **Artillery.** See *Madison Artillery, ante.*
Moon's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 118th Regiment.*
Moore's (John W.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion.*
Moore's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 203d Regiment.*
Moore's (Joseph D.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Moore's (Julian G.) **Artillery.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Battalion, Battery C.*
Moore's (Roger) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Moore's (Samuel A.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Moran's (James) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 5th Regiment, Battery D.*
Morehead's (James T., jr.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 53d Regiment.*
Morgan's (Albert T.) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Morgan's (William A.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Moroney's (Richard) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 69th Regiment.*
Morris Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Morris' (David B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 101st Regiment.*
Morris' (Louis M.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Morris' (P. A. S.) **Cavalry.** See *Confederate Troops, Regulars, 7th Regiment.*
Morris' (William G.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 37th Regiment.*
Morrison's (Emmett M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 15th Regiment.*
Morrison's (Joseph J.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Morrow's (Thomas G.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Morton's (Peter) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 8th Battery.*
Mosby's (Robert G.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 59th Regiment.*
Muhlenberg's (Charles P.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Battery A.*
Mulcahy's (Thomas) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 139th Regiment.*
Mulligan's Artillery. (Official designation not of record.) See ——— *Mulligan.*
Munford's (Thomas T.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Murchison's (Kenneth M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 54th Regiment.*
Murdock's (George H.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Michigan Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Murdock's (Marcus W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 111th Regiment.*
Murray's (John B.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 148th Regiment.*
Murray's (John B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 198th Regiment.*
Myers' (Daniel) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 187th Regiment.*
Myrick's (John R.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 3d Regiment, Battery E.*

Nance's (John K. G.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Naval Battalion, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Battalion, Local Defense.*
Neal's (James H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 19th Regiment.*
Neblett Heavy Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Neeper's (William B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 57th Regiment.*
Neiler's (James R.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 82d Regiment.*
Nelligan's (James) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 1st Regiment, Volunteers.*
Nelson Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Nelson Artillery No. 2. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Nelson's (Andrew M.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 42d Regiment.*
Nelson's (George S.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 39th Regiment.*
Nethercutt's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 66th Regiment.*
Netterfield's (William W.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Newberry's (Walter C.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 24th Regiment.*
Newland's (Frank F.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 8th Regiment.*
New York 1st Mounted Rifles. See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment, Cavalry.*
New York 20th Militia, Infantry. See *New York Troops, 80th Regiment.*
New York 69th National Guard, Artillery. See *New York Troops, 182d Regiment, Infantry.*
Nicholls' (Joseph C.) **Infantry.** See *Delaware Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Nichols' (Asahel W.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Michigan Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Noel's (W. H.) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Noggle's (Dorman L.) **Artillery.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 4th Battery.*
Norcom's (Joe) **Artillery.** See *Washington (La.) Artillery, post, 4th Battery.*
Norfolk Blues, Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Norment's (George M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 34th Regiment.*
Numan's (John F.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 2d Regiment (Mounted Rifles).*
Oakman's (Hiram A.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 30th Regiment.*
Oberteuffer's (John C.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
O'Brien's (Charles) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Oliver's (Paul A.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 5th Regiment (Veteran).*
Olmsted's (William A.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 59th Regiment.*
Oneida Cavalry. See *New York Troops.*
O'Neill's (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 118th Regiment.*
O'Neill's (John B. G.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Orange Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Ordway's (Albert) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 24th Regiment.*
Orr's (James L.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 1st Regiment, Rifles.*
Orr's (William) **Infantry.** See *Indiana Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Osborne's (Edwin A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Otey Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Owen's (Edward) **Artillery.** See *Washington (La.) Artillery, post, 1st Battery.*
Owen's (Thomas H.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 3d Regiment.*
Pace's (George A.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Palmetto Artillery No. 2. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Palmetto Sharpshooters, Infantry. See *South Carolina Troops.*
Pamunkey Heavy Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Paris' (Andrew B.) **Artillery.** See *Staunton Hill Artillery, post.*
Parker's (Ezra K.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
Parker's (Francis M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 30th Regiment.*

Parker's (Tully F.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 26th Regiment.*
Parker's (William W.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Parkinson's (Jordan C.) **Artillery.*** See *Madison Artillery, ante.*
Parks' (Marcus A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 52d Regiment.*
Parr's (John G.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 139th Regiment.*
Parsley's (William M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 1st and 3d Regiments.*
Parsons' (Augustin N.) **Artillery.** See *New Jersey Troops, 1st Battery.*
Partlow's (John M.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Paschall's (Lunsford A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 54th Regiment.*
Patchell's (James) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 102d Regiment.*
Pattee's (Joseph B.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 190th and 191st Regiments.*
Patterson's (George M.) **Artillery.** See *Sumter Artillery, post, Battery B.*
Patterson's (James J.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 148th Regiment.*
Patterson's (Joab N.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Paul's (Frederick S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 13th Regiment, Battery M.*
Payne's (William H.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 4th Regiment.*
Peace's (Abner D.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 23d Regiment.*
Peacock's (G. J.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 2d Battalion.*
Pearson's (Alfred L.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 155th Regiment.*
Peck's (Benjamin M.) **Sharpshooters.** See *Union Troops, Volunteers, 1st Regiment.*
Peck's (William R.) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Peebles' (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 44th Regiment.*
Peeples' (Tyler M.) **Artillery.** See *Georgia Troops, 9th Battalion, Battery D.*
Pegram's (Richard G.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Pendleton's (Edmund) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Pendleton's (Samuel H.) **Artillery.** See *Morris Artillery, ante.*
Penick's (Nathan) **Artillery.** See *John W. Lewis' Artillery, ante.*
Penn's (Davidson B.) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Penrose's (James W.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Penrose's (J. B. W.) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 10th and 15th Regiments.*
Pentecost's (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 100th Regiment.*
Perkins' (Joseph G.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 19th Regiment.*
Perkins' (Lynville J.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 50th Regiment.*
Perrin's (William K.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 26th Regiment.*
Perry's (Clinton) **Sharpshooters.** See *New York Troops, 1st Battalion.*
Perry's (Simon G.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Perry's (William F.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 44th Regiment.*
Peters' (William E.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 21st Regiment.*
Petersburg Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Pettes' (William H.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 50th Regiment.*
Phelan's (Watkins) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Phillips' (Charles A.) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 5th (E) Battery.*
Phillips' (James J.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 9th Regiment.*
Phillips' (Jefferson C.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 13th Regiment.*
Phillips Legion. See *Georgia Troops.*
Phipps' (Richard W.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 19th Regiment.*
Pickens' (Samuel B.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Pickering's (John, jr.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 13th Unattached Company.*
Pierce's (Henry I.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 96th and 118th Regiments.*

* Temporarily commanding.

Pinckard's (William E.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 61st Regiment.*
Pleasants' (Henry) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 48th Regiment.*
Plummer's (Kemp) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 12th Regiment.*
Plympton's (Homer A.) **Infantry.** See *Illinois Troops, 39th Regiment.*
Pollack's (John) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 40th Regiment.*
Pollock's (John G.) **Artillery.** See *Fredericksburg Artillery, ante.*
Pond's (Amos P.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops.*
Pond's (Francis B.) **Infantry.** See *Ohio Troops, 62d Regiment.*
Pool's (Nathan A.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment.*
Porter's (Robert) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 29th Regiment.*
Potter's (Alvah K.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 18th Regiment.*
Potter's (Andrew) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 34th Regiment.*
Potter's (Joseph H.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Potter's (Marvin) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 142d Regiment.*
Powell's (Edward H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 10th Regiment.*
Powell's (Robert M.) **Infantry.** See *Texas Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Powhatan Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Prados' (Louis) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Pratt's (Franklin A.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery M.*
Pratt's (John M.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 23d Battalion*
Pratt's (Oscar E.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 7th Regiment.*
Praxmarer's (Victor) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 46th Regiment.*
Prentice's (Clarence J.) **Cavalry.** See *Confederate Troops, Regulars, 7th Battalion.*
Prescott's (Royal B.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 13th Regiment.*
Price's (Berryman Z.) **Artillery.** See *Danville Artillery, ante.*
Price's (Francis, jr.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Pride's (William G.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Connecticut Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery L.*
Prince's (Frederick W.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Puckett's (William B. C.) **Cavalry.** See *Phillips Legion, ante.*
Pulaski Artillery. See *Georgia Troops.*
Pulford's (John) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Pulliam's (Samuel H.) **Artillery.** See *S. Taylor Martin's Artillery, ante.*
Purcell Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Purnell Legion, Cavalry. See *Maryland Troops, Union.*
Railroad Guards, Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
Ramsay's (John A.) **Artillery.** See *Rowan Artillery, post.*
Ramsey's (John) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Rand's (Arnold A.) **Cavalry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Randall's (Francis V.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Randall's (George M.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 14th Regiment.*
Randlett's (James F.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Rankin's (William S.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 21st Regiment.*
Ransom's (Alfred) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 23d Battery.*
Rawles' (Jacob B.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 5th Regiment, Batteries D and G.*
Raymond's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 23d Regiment.*
Read's (Edmund S.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 26th Battalion.*
Ready's (Horace) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 17th and 23d Regiments.*
Redmond's (Robert C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 58th Regiment.*
Reese's (William J.) **Artillery.** See *Jeff. Davis Artillery, ante.*
Reeves' (James H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Reichard's (Francis H.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 188th Regiment.*

Renwick's (Victor D.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 64th Regiment.*
Revere's (William H., jr.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 107th Regiment.*
Reynolds' (Albert) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 125th Regiment.*
Reynolds' (Arthur E.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 26th Regiment.*
Reynolds' (Reuben O.) **Infantry.** See *Mississippi Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Rhinehart's (Alfred A.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 148th Regiment.*
Rhoads' (Samuel H.) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, Battery D.*
Rhodes' (Elisha H.) **Infantry.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Rhodes' (William B.) **Artillery.** See *Rhode Island Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery E.*
Rice's (Edmund) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 19th Regiment.*
Rice's (Randall H.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Rice's (R. Sidney) **Artillery.** See *Danville Artillery, ante.*
Rich's (Giles H.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
Rich's (William W.) **Cavalry.** See *Phillips Legion, ante.*
Richards' (Thomas J.) **Artillery.** See *Madison Light Artillery, ante.*
Richardson's (Charles T.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 29th Regiment.*
Richardson's (Hollon) **Infantry.** See *Wisconsin Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Richardson's (J. B.) **Artillery.** See *Washington (La.) Artillery, post, 2d Battery.*
Richardson's (John H.) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 39th Battalion.*
Richmond City Battalion, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 25th Battalion.*
Richmond Fayette Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Richmond Grays, Infantry. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 12th Regiment.*
Richmond Howitzers, Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Ricketts' (R. Bruce) **Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery F.*
Rierson's (John W.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 53d Regiment.*
Riggs' (William J.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 3d Regiment, Battery H.*
Riley's (Thomas M.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 5th Regiment.*
Ringgold Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Rion's (James H.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 7th Battalion.*
Ripley's (Edward H.) **Infantry.** See *Vermont Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Ritchie's (David F.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery C.*
Ritman's (George L.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 184th Regiment.*
Rivers' (Charles C.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Rives' (J. Henry) **Artillery.** See *Nelson Artillery No. 2, ante.*
Roach's (Montreville P.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 22d Regiment.*
Roberts' (John H.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Roberts' (Joseph) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Roberts' (William P.) **Cavalry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment.*
Robertson's (James E.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 20th Battalion.*
Robinson's (Gilbert P.) **Infantry.** See *Maryland Troops, Union, 3d Regiment.*
Robison's (John K.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Rockbridge Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Rockbridge Artillery No. 2. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Rockwell's (Alfred P.) **Infantry.** See *Connecticut Troops, 6th Regiment.*
Roder's (John W.) **Artillery.** See *Union Troops, Regulars, 4th Regiment, Battery K.*
Roemer's (Jacob) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 34th Battery.*
Rogers' (Chauncey P.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 83d Regiment.*
Rogers' (Edward W.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 19th Battery.*
Rogers' (Edward W.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Rogers' (George) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 4th Regiment.*
Rogers' (George T.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 6th Regiment.*

Rogers' (Robert E.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment, Battery B.*
Rogers' (William H.) **Artillery.** See *Maine Troops, 6th Battery.*
Rogers' (William H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 98th Regiment.*
Ross' (Hugh M.) **Artillery.** See *Sumter Artillery, post, Battery A.*
Ross' (John R.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 84th Regiment.*
Rowan Artillery. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
Rowand's (Edward S.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 2d Regiment.*
Royce's (Clark E.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 6th Regiment.*
Russell's (Charles S.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 28th Regiment.*
Russell's (John A.) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 5th, 6th, and 7th Regiments.*
Rutledge's (B. Huger) **Cavalry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 4th Regiment.*
Rutledge's (Henry M.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 25th Regiment.*
Ryding's (Theodore W.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Sacriste's (Louis J.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 116th Regiment.*
Salem Artillery. See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Salisbury Prison Guard, Infantry. See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate.*
Salter's (Charles H.) **Infantry.** See *Michigan Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Sanders' (C. C.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 24th Regiment.*
Sanderson's (Joseph W.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment.*
Sandlin's (N. J.) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 8th Regiment.*
Sanford's (John W. A.) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 60th Regiment.*
Saunders' (William L.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 46th Regiment.*
Savage's (Alexander) **Cavalry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 13th Regiment.*
Savage's (James W.) **Cavalry.** See *New York Troops, 12th Regiment.*
Sawyer's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 21st Regiment.*
Schack's (George W. von) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Scheu's (Jacob) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Schilling's (Franz von) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 3d Regiment, Batteries E and G.*
Schoonover's (John) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Scott's (George W.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 61st Regiment.*
Scott's (James) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 1st and 14th Regiments.*
Scott's (William W.) **Infantry.** See *Florida Troops, 10th Regiment.*
Scruggs' (D. E.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 2d Regiment, Local Defense.*
Seago's (Eli M.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 20th Regiment.*
Sellers' (Eli G.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 91st Regiment.*
Sells' (David M.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 107th Regiment.*
Sergeant's (William) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 210th Regiment.*
Serrell's (Edward W.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Sewall's (Samuel G.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Volunteers, 4th Regiment.*
Sewell's (William J.) **Infantry.** See *New Jersey Troops, 38th Regiment.*
Seymour's (Frank) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 4th Regiment, Battery L.*
Shaaff's (F. Key) **Infantry.** See *Alabama Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Shaffer's (Calvin) **Heavy Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment, Battery F.*
Shannon's (Peter J.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Sharp's (Eliphalet F.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 61st Regiment.*
Sharp's (Thomas H.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 17th Regiment.*
Shatswell's (Nathaniel) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Shaw's (James, jr.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 7th Regiment.*
Shaw's (William H.) **Infantry.** See *New York Troops, 115th Regiment.*
Shearer's (John C.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 55th Regiment.*

Shelton's (William D.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 14th Regiment.*
Shepard's (Samuel G.) **Infantry.** See *Tennessee Troops, 7th Regiment.*
Shepherd's (Russell B.) **Heavy Artillery.** See *Maine Troops, 1st Regiment.*
Shepperd's (George N.) **Infantry.** See *New Hampshire Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Shipp's (Scott) **Cadets.** See *Military Institute Cadets, Infantry, ante.*
Shively's (Cornelius) **Infantry.** See *Louisiana Troops, 9th Regiment.*
Shober's (Charles E.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 7th Regiment, Reserves.*
Shoemaker's (John J.) **Artillery.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate.*
Shurtleff's (Giles W.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 5th Regiment.*
Sickel's (Horatio G.) **Infantry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 198th Regiment.*
Sillars' (Malcolm) **Infantry.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 17th Regiment.*
Simmons' (Thomas J.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 45th Regiment.*
Simms' (James P.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 53d Regiment.*
Simms' (John D.) **Infantry.** See *George H. Terrett's Marines, post.*
Simonton's (Charles H.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 25th Regiment.*
Singeltary's (Thomas C.) **Infantry.** See *North Carolina Troops, Confederate, 44th Regiment.*
Skelley's (James A.) **Cavalry.** See *Pennsylvania Troops, 11th Regiment.*
Skelton's (John H.) **Infantry.** See *Georgia Troops, 16th Regiment.*
Skinner's (Frederick G.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 1st Regiment.*
Skinner's (James H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 52d Regiment.*
Slaten's (C. W.) **Artillery.** See *Macon Artillery, ante.*
Sleeper's (J. Henry) **Artillery.** See *Massachusetts Troops, 10th Battery.*
Slosson's (Henry V.) **Engineers.** See *New York Troops, 15th Regiment.*
Smith's (Alexander D.) **Infantry.** See *South Carolina Troops, 26th Regiment.*
Smith's (Arthur J.) **Infantry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 30th Regiment.*
Smith's (Benjamin H., jr.) **Artillery.** See *Richmond Howitzers, ante, 3d Company.*
Smith's (Frank A.) **Cavalry.** See *Union Troops, Colored, 1st Regiment.*
Smith's (George H.) **Infantry.** See *Virginia Troops, Confederate, 62d Regiment.*
Smith's (Hiram D.) **Artillery.** See *New York Troops, 17th Battery.*
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